CHANDIGARH | GURUGRAM | JALANDHAR | BATHINDA | VOL. 145 NO. 1 | 16 PAGES | ₹5.00 | REGD. NO. CHD/0006/2024-2026 ESTABLISHED IN 1881 ■ DELHI

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

CASTEISM RAMPANT IN BJP-RULED STATES, SAYS KHARGE NATION



KATRA BANDH ENTERS SEVENTH DAY AS MPASSE PERSISTS J&K



APRIL-NOV FISCAL **DEFICIT AT 52.5%: GOVT DATA BUSINESS**

INDIAN-ORIGIN HEROES ON KING CHARLES' HONOURS LIST WORLD



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WEDNESDAY 1 JANUARY 2025

THE TRIBUNE WISHES ITS READERS A HAPPY NEW YEAR



Fireworks over the Sydney Opera House and Harbour Bridge as part of the celebrations to usher in the New Year in Sydney. AP/PTI

Punjab extends 4 1 winter break in schoolstill Jan 7

CHANDIGARH: In view of the cold weather, the Punjab Government has extended the winter vacation in government-aided, recognised and private schools across the state till January 7. Announcing this on his official X account, School Education Minister Harjot Singh Bains said the decision was taken under the directions of Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann, considering the prevailing cold weather conditions. All schools will reopen on January 8. - TNS

Quad vows to work towardsfree and stable Indo-Pacific

NEW DELHE India and other Quad member nations on Tuesday reaffirmed the grouping's steadfast commitment to work towards a free, open and peaceful Indo-Pacific amid China's increasing military muscleflexing in the region. The foreign ministers of the member nations of the grouping made the pledge in a joint statement commemorating the anniversary of "Quad cooperation". India, the US, Australia and Japan came together 20 years ago to assistance response to the 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake tsunami, and that coalition subsequently took the form of the Quad. BACK PAGE

SGPC seeks judicial probe into killing of 3 youths in Pilibhit

AMRITSAR: The SGPC on Tuesday demanded a judicial inquiry into the killing of three Punjab youths in a police encounter in Pilibhit, Uttar Pradesh. On December 23, a joint team of the Punjab and Uttar Pradesh police had killed the three suspected terrorists in an encounter. They were allegedly involved in a grenade attack on a police post in Gurdaspur. During a meeting, the SGPC passed a resolution, raising serious questions over the police encounter "This is a serious matter and it seems like a deliberate act to target Punjab's youths," the resolution read. INSIDE

Let's forget & forgive: Manipur CM apologises for ethnic conflict

IMPHAL, DECEMBER 31

Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh on Tuesday apologised for the ethnic conflict in the state which has claimed over 250 lives and rendered thousands homeless since May 2023. He appealed to all communities to forget and forgive past mistakes and live together in a peaceful and prosperous state.

Addressing a press conference here, Singh said there had been relative peace in the state in the last three-four months, giving him hope that normalcy would be restored in the new year.

"I want to say sorry for what happened in the state. Many people lost their loved ones and many had to leave their homes. I regret and want to apologise. But after seeing relative peace in the last three-four months, I hope that normalcy will be restored in the coming year.

"Whatever happened has happened...I want to appeal to

all communities to forgive and forget our past mistakes and start life afresh by living together in a peaceful and prosperous Manipur," he said. Singh said firing incidents had declined in the state over the last 20 months since the ethnic conflict began in May 2023. "From May to October 2023, 408 firing incidents were reported. From November 2023 to April 2024, there

were 345 firing incidents,



Manipur CM N Biren Singh addresses a press conference in Imphal. ₱11

250 LIVES LOST IN VIOLENCE SINCE MAY 2023 More than 250 people have been killed and thousands rendered

homeless in the ethnic violence between Imphal Valley-based Meiteis and adjoining hills-based Kuki-Zo groups since May 2023 STATE ACCOUNTED FOR 77% OF NE VIOLENCE

Manipur accounted for about 77 per cent of the total violence in the northeastern region in 2023, according to MHA. Among the 243 vio lent incidents that occurred in the North-East, 187 took place in Manipur

whereas from May this year till now, 112 firing incidents were reported," he said.

He said of all the looted weapons, 3,112 had been recovered and 2,511 explosives had been seized during the period. As many as 625 people had been arrested and 12,047 FIRs registered so far, he added.

More than 250 people had been killed and thousands rendered homeless in the ethnic violence between Imphal Valley-based Meiteis and adjoining hills-based

Kuki-Zo groups since May last year. The Chief Minister claimed that the state govemment was "tirelessly working to improve the law and order situation".

Meanwhile on Tuesday, a clash between women from the Kuki community and security personnel triggered fresh tensions in Kangpokpi district of Manipur. The locals were protesting against the "forceful occupation" of community bunkers by security personnel, claimed witnesses. — TNS/PTI

Dallewal to accept medical aid if Centre offers talks: Punjab to SC

Top court gives state govt two more days to implement its orders

SATYA PRAKASH TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 31

The Supreme Court on Tuesday granted two more days to the Punjab Government to comply with its directions on shifting farmer leader Jagjit Singh Dallewal, who is on a fast-unto-death November 26, to a hospital.

"Taking into consideration the totality of circumstances and keeping the interest of justice in view, we are inclined to accept the request to afford some more time for compliance with the directions issued by this court," a Vacation Bench of Justice Surva Kant and Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia said, posting a contempt petition against the Punjab Chief Secretary and the Director General of Police for further hearing on January 2.

The order came after Punjab Advocate General Gurminder Singh submitted that negotiators had visited the protest site and efforts were made for implementing the court order by mobilising about 7,000 personnel. Due to the Punjab bandh called by farmers' organisations on Monday, there were traffic



ATTEND NEXT HEARING TOO, CHIEF SECY, DGP TOLD

■"If something happens which is Punjab Chief Secretary KAPSinacceptable to all sides, we are equally happy. As of now, we are only concerned with the compliance of our orders," Justice Surya Kantsaid

ha and DGP Gaurav Yadav, who were present during the virtual hearing, were asked to remain present on the next date of hearing on Thursday as well

blockades. "According to the negotiators, a proposal has been given by the farmers to the Centre that if they get an invite for talks, Dallewal is ready to take medical aid as desired," Gurminder Singh said, seeking three more days for compliance.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta said he had no

instructions on the submissions made by the Punjab Advocate General.

Maintaining that he would not like to comment on the negotiations, Justice Kant said, "If something happens which is acceptable to all sides, we are equally happy. As of now, we are only concerned with the compliance

of our orders." Punjab Chief Secretary KAP Sinha and Director General of Police Gaurav Yadav, who were present during the virtual hearing, were asked to remain present on the next date of hearing on Thursday as well.

On December 28, the top court had warned Sinha and Yadav that it would frame charges of contempt of court against them if its order on shifting Dallewal to a hospital was not complied with. "It's a contempt case and the next step is known. Why shouldn't there be charges against the Chief Secretary and the DGP? Why should charges be not framed? This is the logical flow of a contempt matter," it had told the two senior officers.

Dallewal has been on a fastunto-death at the Khanauri border between Punjab and Haryana since November 26 to press for the acceptance of farmers' demands.

Acting on a contempt petition filed by Labh Singh of Mohali, the top court had on December 27 issued a notice CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

EDIT: LOOKING AHEAD

Sangh mindset: Kerala | MEA promises to provide

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 31

A day after Yemen President Rashad al-Alimi approved the execution of an Indian nurse convicted of murdering a Yemeni national in 2017, the Ministry of External Affairs

in a statement.

tact with Yemeni national Talal Abdo Mahdi. Priya's husband and minor

daughter had to return to India in 2014 due to financial woes. The same year, Yemen was engulfed in civil war and the duo could not return as the country stopped issuing new visas.

As Yemen's law bars foreigners from starting their own businesses unless they have local partners, Mahdi is said to have helped Priya set up a clinic in capital city Sanaa.

In 2017, Priya was convicted of murdering Mahdi even as she called it "an act of selfdefence". She alleged that Mahdi had been harassing her for money and had even seized her passport. She also alleged that he forged her documents to project himself as her husband while subjecting her to physical and emotional abuse.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

CM on Maha minister's assistance to Kerala nurse 'mini Pakistan' remark | facing execution in Yemen THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, DEC 31 BARB INSULTS Chief Minister

Pinarayi Vijayan on Tuesday vehemently criticised Maharashtra Minister Nitesh Rane for calling Kerala a "mini Pakistan" and said his remarks were highly "provocative" and "condemnable". "The Sangh Parivar's

basic approach towards Kerala is exposed through the words of the Maharashtra minister," the CM said in a statement. "The Sangh Parivar believes it can isolate a place that's difficult for them to influence by alienating and spreading hate campaigns and these statements came as part of that," he said.

Vijayan maintained that a minister who made the hate statement "did not deserve to continue in the position". "It is surprising that the leadership of the country's ruling party is yet to react to the min-

CONSTITUTION

The Sangh Parivar believes it can isolate a place that's difficult for them to influence by alienating and spreading hate campaigns... amounts to insulting the Constitution. Pinarayi Vijayan, KERALACM

ister's act of serious breach of oath, which amounted to insulting the country's Constitution," he said. Later, in a post on X, the CM

termed the Maharashtra minister's comment as "deeply malicious and utterly condemnable". Such rhetoric reflects the hate campaigns orchestrated by the Sangh Parivar against Kerala, a bastion of secularism and communal harmony, the CM said. "We strongly denounce this CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

EVERYTHING IS

TRACEABLE ONLINE

Every click and every

The digital footprint on the

connected world, we have

'cloud' is vital. In today's

the tools — if we know

where to look.

search creates a trace.

(MEA) on Tuesday stepped in saying it would extend all possible help in the matter. Randhir Jaiswal, MEA spokesperson, said the government was aware of

Nimisha Priya's sentencing in Yemen. "We understand that Priya's family is exploring relevant options. The government is extending all possible help," the spokesperson said Hailing from Kollengode

town in Kerala's Palakkad, Priya's execution is scheduled to take place within a month. Married with a daughter, she moved to Yemen in 2011 and there came in con-

Messiah for the missing: Cyber expert reunites families via digital footprint

Chandigarh-based Gurcharan Singh has traced hundreds of missing persons over past 16 years, all for free

UPIN DERJIT SINGH

CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 31 When a Class IX student

went missing from a Jammu school, his family explored all avenues in a desperate attempt to trace him, but to no avail. Two months later, they approached Gurcharan Singh, a cybersecurity expert in Chandigarh, and within a short span, the boy was back with the family.

A member of cybersecurity faculty at the Central Detective Training Institute under the Ministry of Home Affairs. Gurcharan trains police officials in investigating online frauds. But his expertise lies in finding missing persons,

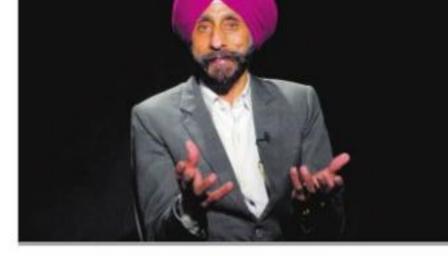
and he does it out of passion. In 2008, Gurcharan stum-

bled upon his first case — a missing girl from Jhajjar and since then has traced hundreds of such individuals, including children.

A messiah for missing persons, Gurcharan follows the digital footprint of his subjects to track them down. He has mastered the art of navigating through the murky waters of the digital landscape, using social media, online transactions, CCTVs, smart TVs and even GPS data as tools to zero in on the subjects.

hails from Yamunanagar in

Sharing his experiences in a video interview with The "To open a new account on Tribune, Gurcharan, who the social media, one needs



Haryana, reveals how the Facebook account led him to the Jammu boy.

email ID, where the OTP is sent for verification. The boy lied about his age and created the account using his mother's phone. The family to be 18, have a phone and an was kept in the dark. Once I

Gurcharan Singh, CYBERSECURITY EXPERT, CENTRAL DETECTIVE TRAINING INSTITUTE, CHANDIGARH

a popular dhaba in the heart

of Amritsar. The boy, who

was sent to a top school, was

found the account, I traced the last access. He had used there," he shares.

found working as a waiter "Families often approach

The Jhajjar girl case, which was his first, turned out to be that of elopement. "Through the digital footprint, I could

moving train. The police found her at the next railway station." He recalls another case involving a prominent Gujarat doctor who had been missing for three months. "He was found in a meditation centre in

pinpoint her live location in a

Himachal. The digital footprint can't be erased," he asserts. "Police from various states approach us. I have trained the broadband connection of many cops who are doing a great job, but due to the pres-

sure of probing other crimes,

their priorities shift," he says.

self-styled godmen for help. but the scientific way of finding someone is through their digital footprint," he asserts. "Every click and every

smart TV for leads," he says.

search creates a trace. You can access the CCTV and even Gurcharan doesn't get

paid for all the hard work, but the gratification, he says, is priceless. "I used to trace cyber frauds. And when I achieved some success, I thought of helping families in despair. Seeing them reunite with their loved ones is what drives me. That's why I do this. To see that joy, that relief — it makes it all worthwhile," he adds.

Today's issue is of 16 pages, including four-page Delhi Tribune.

Police dept tops bribery cases in crackdown against corruption

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 31

Of the 104 trap cases in 2024 where officials were caught red-handed by the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) of Haryana, 34 involved police officials, representing the highest number of cases against any single department.

One of the cases involved two sub-inspectors from Faridabad. Sub-Inspector Arjun Singh was caught redhanded accepting a bribe of Rs 12.5 lakh. An additional Rs 7.47 lakh was recovered from his vehicle on November 21. The bribe was allegedly demanded to facilitate bail for two individuals in a cyberfraud case. Sub-Inspector Ram, a co-accused, fled the scene. This case marked the highest bribe amount recovered in 2024.

another instance, Kanungo Karambir Singh from the Revenue Department was apprehended on November 26 in Kaithal while accepting a bribe of Rs 5 lakh. Additionally, an HCS officer and an Excise and Taxation official were arrest-



SPECIAL REVIEW OF CIVIL WORKS

During a special review of 71 civil works by the technical wing of the ACB, action was recommended against 63 officials from various departments, alongside the recovery of ₹2.82 crore.

higher, with 205 cases regis-

tered. Of these, 152 were trap

cases, resulting in the arrest

of 30 gazetted officers, 156

non-gazetted officials, and 40

private individuals. A total of

Rs 86.12 lakh in bribe money

Among the 104 raids con-

ducted last year, 34 targeted

the police department, fol-

lowed by 11 involving power

utility officials, nine from the

Urban Local Bodies Depart-

ment, eight from the Excise

& Taxation Department, sev-

en from the Revenue Depart-

ment and six from the Health

was seized.

ed during separate raids.

Overall, the ACB registered 155 cases in 2024, including 104 trap cases that led to the seizure of Rs 88.29 lakh in bribe money. A total of 86 individuals, including six gazetted officers, 80 non-gazetted officials, and 31 private individuals, were caught red-handed accepting bribes, according to a government spokesperson. This amounts to an average of seven public servants being arrested on corruption charges each month.

In comparison, the ACB's performance in 2023 was

INQUIRIES & ACTION

- Of the 90 inquiries conducted in 2024, the ACB recommended criminal cases against 47 gazetted officers, 57 non-gazetted officials and 29 others in eight cases.
- ■In 24 inquiries, departmental action was recommended against 31 gazetted officers and 52 non-gazetted officials. In other 29, both criminal cases and departmental action was recommended against 33 gazetted officers, 43 non-gazetted officials and three private individuals.

Department. In 2023, as many as 49 police officials were caught red-handed, along with 21 from the Revenue Department, 10 from power utilities, seven from the Food and Supply Department and six from the Urban Local Bodies Department.

Anti-Corruption "The Bureau is committed to intensifying the drive against corruption and all cases of bribery have been dealt with strictly and more crackdowns will follow in the coming days," said Alok Mittal, Director General, ACB.

₹90 cr drought

relief bonus for

CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 31

tarmers released

In a gesture aimed at support-

ing the state's paddy farmers, Haryana Agriculture and

Shyam Singh Rana has

released Rs 90 crore as a

drought relief bonus. The

announcement comes as a New Year gift to farmers facing

The bonus, amounting to Rs

2,000 per acre, has been dis-

bursed to farmers under the

relief

announced by Chief Minister

Nayab Singh Saini. Rana

released the funds online from

his office and also held a pre-

Budget discussion with officers

from agriculture, horticulture

The minister urged officers to

develop comprehensive plans

for the upcoming Budget,

focusing on the overall welfare

of farmers. He stressed the

importance of procuring all 24

crops at the MSP and ensuring

the timely implementation of

various schemes aimed at

farmers welfare. — TNS

and allied departments.

scheme

adverse climatic conditions.

Welfare Minister

Anger mounts as missing Jhajjar minorremains untracedformonth

IHAIIAR, DECEMBER 31

Members of the Scheduled Caste (SC) community staged a protest in Bahadurgarh town today, expressing anger over the alleged "slackness" of the police in tracing a 14year-old girl who went missing under mysterious circumstances a month ago. "The girl went out to buy

goods from a shop near Shiv Chowk in Bahadurgarh on December 1 but never returned. Despite extensive searches by her family and the police registering a case, her whereabouts unknown," said Bijender, who led the protest. He warned, "If the girl is not recovered by January 3, we will meet CM Nayab Saini during his visit to Bahadurgarh to demand immediate action." Investigating officer Harish Kumar said a special investigation team has also been formed to intensify the search." he added. — TNS

TARGETS CONG

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 31

Krishan Bedi assured that

action is being taken against

tragic suicide of a Dalit girl

in Loharu. Speaking to the

media, Bedi said an FIR has

been filed and the police are

working diligently to appre-

Responding to tweets

from Congress leaders criti-

cising the government's

handling of the case, Bedi

countered that these lead-

should focus on

hend the accused.

assures action against culprits

Loharu Dalit girl suicide: Minister

- Reacting to the government's criticism by Congress leaders, Haryana Social Justice and Social Justice and Empower-Empowerment Minister ment Minister Krishan Bedi questioned why Congress leaders remained silent durthose responsible for the ing incidents such as the
 - Mirchpur violence He urged Congress leaders to retract their tweets on the issue and join efforts to seek justice for the victim

cally tortured the girl," Bedi said. "The police are actively pursuing the accused and justice will be done."

The Social Justice and

Empowerment Minister demanding action against the culprits rather than pointed out that the college defending them. in question had been pro-"An FIR was registered at moting free education and Loharu police station on transport facilities in the December 27 based on a area. He mentioned that complaint from the victim's videos featuring the local father, who alleged that the MLA discussing these inicollege principal and his tiatives are circulating on brother mentally and physisocial media.

He also targeted Congress leaders for their remarks on the case. "Instead of tweeting half-heartedly, these leaders should focus on demanding action against the culprits. Their tweets appear to shield those responsible," Bedi alleged.

Bedi questioned why Congress leaders remained silent during incidents such as the Mirchpur violence. He directly called out former Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda, asking, "Will Hooda now ask his MLA about this matter?"

He urged Congress leaders to retract their tweets and join efforts to seek justice for the victim. "The government stands firmly with the victim's family and is committed to ensuring justice," he stated. Reiterating the government's stance, Bedi condemned the incident and assured that action would be taken against the accused without delay.

Farmers gear up for Jan 4 state-level kisan mahapanchayat in Tohana

PARVEEN ARORA TRUBUNE NEWS SERVICE

KARNAL, DECEMBER 31

In preparation for the national-level kisan mahapanchayat scheduled for January 4 in Tohana, Fatehabad, Samyukta Kisan Morcha (SKM) Haryana has intensified its efforts to mobilise farmers. As part of this initiative, the Bhartiya Kisan Union (BKU), an SKM member, held a meeting in Karnal, attended by office-bearers from three districts.

BKU state president Rattan Mann criticised the government for failing to address the farmers' longstanding demands. He warned of "dire consequences" if the government continued to delay action.

Farmers at the meeting raised slogans against the government and dismissed its claims of procuring 24 crops at minimum support price (MSP) in Haryana. Mann accused the Chief Minister of misleading farmers.

"Instead of making false statements, the CM must secure a guarantee letter from the Union government for an MSP law," Mann demanded. He further alleged that the BJP



BKU president Rattan Mann addresses office-bearers of three districts in Karnal on Tuesday, TRIBUNE PHOTO

government has consistentneglected farmers' issues, forcing them into

nationwide protests. They also voiced concerns about the deteriorating health of farmer leader Jagjit Singh Dallewal, who has been on an indefinite hunger strike for over a month to push for the fulfilment of farmers' demands. Blaming the Central Government for its indifference, Mann said, "The government's stubbomness has left leaders like

to take extreme steps." Mann highlighted the sig-

Dallewal with no choice but

nificance of the January 4 kisan mahapanchayat in Tohana, describing it as a key demonstration of the farmers' ongoing unity and strength. He urged farmers to turn out in large numbers

to ensure its success. "Tohana Kisan Mahapanchayat will feature prominent leaders such as BKU national spokesperson Rakesh Tikait, national general secretary Yudhvir Singh and several other leaders from across the country. A significant number of farmers from Punjab are also expected to join,"

He announced that a joint Punjab-Haryana farmers' meeting would also be held in Moga, Punjab, on January 9 to continue strategising for their demands.

Reiterating the farmers' primary demand for a legal guarantee on MSP, Mann emphasised that the movement would not back down regardless of the sacrifices required. He also accused the BJP government of formulating policies aimed at dismantling traditional grain markets, further endangering farmers' livelihoods.

Hail-hit farmers find support as MILA backs demand for relief

Led by Prithla MLA Raghubir Singh Tewatia, SKM leaders submit a memorandum for the release

of compensation to the Deputy Commissioner in Palwal on Tuesday, TRIBUNE PHOTO

BIJENDRA AHLAWAT

DOBUNE NEWSSERVICE

PALWAL, DECEMBER 31 Farmers affected by the recent hailstorm in the region have found a strong ally in Congress MLA Raghubir Singh Tewatia, who accompanied a delegation of the Sanyukt Kisan Morcha (SKM) to submit a memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner on Tuesday, seeking immediate compensation for the damage caused to standing crops and vegetables.

Tewatia, representing the Prithla Assembly segment, expressed solidarity with the farmers and urged the state government to expedite financial support. "Coming from a farming background, I fully understand the pain and suffering of farmers who often bear the brunt of such calamities. Without government support, they cannot recover from these losses," he said.

While acknowledging the state government's recent announcement of a survey to assess the damage, Tewatia emphasised the urgency of releasing compensation, particularly for marginal farmers who are unable to absorb the financial impact. Mahender Singh Chauhan,

spokesperson for the SKM, highlighted that crops in 25 to 30 villages had been severely affected by the hailstorm. A detailed survey is required to determine the exact extent of the losses. Villages listed in the memorandum include Ghughera, Alika, Dhatir, Yadupur, Kakrali, Karana, Gelpur Badha, Maheshpur, Mandori, Johan Kheda,

Durainchi, Khok hiyaka, Gharot, Rakhouta, Janachauli, Aluka and Jainpur. Chauhan said farmers in the region were already grappling with challenges such as inadequate irrigation facilities, shortage of fertilisers and seeds, and issues with disposing of paddy stubble. "The hailstorm has further distressed the crop growers, pushing many to the brink," he stated.

> The memorandum also called for the release of adequate water in the canals connected to the Agra Canal in Palwal district to ensure sufficient irrigation for wheat crops. DC Dr Harish Kumar Vashisht said the concerns raised in the memorandum would be forwarded to higher authorities for necessary action.

Leaders pay homage to Chautala, hail his legacy

OUR CORRESPONDENT

SIRSA, DECEMBER 31

At a condolence meeting held in Chautala village today in memory of former Chief Minister Om Prakash Chautala, a number of prominent leaders, including BJP national president JP Nadda, Haryana Governor Bandaru Dattatreya, Chief Minister Nayab Singh Punjab's former Deputy CM Sukhbir Badal. former Finance Minister Manpreet Badal, farmer leader Rakesh Tikait and BJP state president Mohan Lal Badoli, were present. They honoured Chautala's contributions to Haryana's political and developmental landscape.

A five-minute documentary chronicling OP Chautala's life and legacy was screened during the event. The video concluded with Chautala naming Abhay Chautala as his political successor in the Indian National Lok Dal (INLD).

Farmer leader Rakesh Tikait, must come together for the



Om Prakash Chautala in Sirsa on Tuesday, TRIBUNE PHOTO

found in unity.

CMSaini described OP Chautala's life as an "open book" filled with lessons in dedication and service. He praised Chautala's relentless efforts to guide Haryana's progress, saying, "His commitment to public welfare has left an enduring

legacy for all of us to follow." Haryana Governor Bandaru

commended his steadfast dedication to the people's interests and the state's development.

Nadda remarked that Chautala's passing marked the end of anera. He highlighted Chautala's advocacy for labourers, farmers and the middle class, noting his pivotal role in transforming Haryana into a progressive and developed state.

Abhay Chautala fondly recalled his father's guidance in teaching resilience and morality and praised his tireless dedication to the welfare of the common man and his party, even in his later years.

With 56,830 selections, highest number of jobs given in '24: HSSC chief

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Mann said.

CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 31

Harvana Staff Selection Commission (HSSC) Chairman Himmat Singh has said significant steps have been taken to streamline the recruitment process in the interest of candidates after the reconstitution of the commission on July 18, 2024.

Addressing a press conference, he said this year, the commission declared results for a total of 56,830 candidates, of which approximately 36,000 results were successfully announced in just 56 working days.

Talking about the commission's achievements and initiatives, Singh said the commission had utilised social media platforms to raise awareness among candidates and linked them with the commission's official website. For the first time, candidates could directly contact any officer of the commission via phone or message to register their complaints.

He said the commission strongly advocated for the interests of the candidates in court regarding the delayed recruitments. Singh shared

that a total of 266 cases were filed concerning the results of recruitments 24,000 announced by the commission, and 418 cases were filed regarding the TGT exam results, on which the commission is taking swift action. The commission successfully conducted 28 exams in just 56 days. The remaining exams would also be conducted soon. The state has released the largest result of 24,000 candidates, said Singh, adding that compared to previous years, this year saw the highest number of youth being provided employment, with 56,830 selections. Sharing the details, he said in

2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018, the recruitment was done on 2,780 posts, 2,229 posts, 8,403 posts and 20,141 posts, respectively. In 2019, as many as 34,649 posts were filled. In 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023, the recruitment was carried out for 8,694 posts, 3,651 posts, and 16,366 posts, respectively; and in 2023, at least 838 posts were filled. He said a portal would be

launched for complaints, where a specific time frame for resolution would be fixed, and candidates would receive updates via messages.

Capt Yadav seeks relieffor croploss REWARI, DECEMBER 31

Congress leader Capt Ajay Yadav yesterday called on CM Nayab Singh Saini at his residence in Chandigarh and apprised him of various problems being faced by people of Rewari. He sought compensa-

NOTICE INVITING TENDER QUOTATIONS

tion to the affected farmers by

announcing girdawari

assess the losses.—TNS

Sealed Quotations are invited for finalization of rate contract Tender (RCT) for purchase of ICT enabled items and hardware items for various projects running under DITS, Palwal For detail information, term Conditions please visit at: etenders.hry.nic.in

> Member Secy. DITS, Palwal

Selja slams BJP over 'rising atrocities' against Dalits

Sirsa Congress MP Kumari Selja has alleged that incidents of Dalit oppression have significantly increased in BJP-ruled states, accusing them of turning into "laboratories for atrocities against Dalits."

Raising the issue of the tragic suicide of Diksha, a Dalit girl allegedly denied her exam due to unpaid college fee, Selja criticised the BJP for its failure to protect marginalised communities. "Diksha's only fault was being born into a poor Dalit family. This incident exposes the hollow nature of the BJP's

slogan 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao," Selja said in a post on X. She questioned when the government would end dis-Harvana," she said. —TNS

and economic conditions. "Is the BJP's model of development limited to a select few? Do the dreams of children from Dalit and weaker sections hold no value?" she asked. She criticised the increasing

women in Haryana and other BJP-ruled states. "Why are incidents of atrocities against Dalits and tribals rising continuously in BJP-ruled states?" she asked. The Congress leader pointed out that Dalits, comprising 22% of Haryana's voters, are often deprived of democratic rights. "The constitutional rights meant for them hold little significance in

number of rapes against Dalit

addressing the gathering, called for unity within the Chautala family, urging them to set aside differences. "The government's own slogan is, 'Divided we fall.' The family

greater good," he emphasised, underscoring the strength

Dattatreva remembered Chautala as a visionary who championed Haryana's water rights. Recounting their interactions during Chautala's tenure, he

Scientists develop neutralisers to enable vegetable cultivation in alkaline soils

KARNAL, DECEMBER 31

In a significant achievement, scientists from the ICAR-Central Soil Salinity Research Institute (CSSRI) have developed alkalinity neutralisers to enable vegetable cultivation using alkaline water. This innovation could revolutionise agricultural practices in regions with underground alkaline water sources, addressing issues like water scarcity and low productivity.

According to data provided by the scientists, around 30% of groundwater resources in Haryana and Punjab - key contributors to the nation's food grain supply - are affected by varying levels of alkalinity. The use of alkaline water has long been a challenge in agriculture, leading to soil sodification, reduced crop productivity and increased costs.

"Our scientists have succeeded in producing vegetables in such water," said Dr RK Yadav, Director, ICAR-CSSRI. He added that this development would enable the expansion of vegetable



The application of sulphur-based neutralisers transformed previously unproductive land into fertile fields suitable for cultivating vegetables. TRIBUNE PHOTO

cultivation and diversification in areas previously considered unsuitable.

The milestone is part of a Department of Science and Technology(DST)-funded proj-

ect that began in 2020. A dedicated team of scientists, including Dr Nirmalendu Basak, Dr Arvind Kumar Rai, Dr Parul Sundha, Dr Priyanka Chandra,

Dr Satyendra Kumar, Dr Ran-

jay Kumar Singh, Dr Rajendra Kumar Yadav and Dr Parbodh Chander Sharma, worked tirelessly for four years to develop the neutralisers.

HARYANA

successful trials on okra and tomato at the CSSRI premis-

es, followed by field experi-

ments in Patiala, Punjab. The

application of sulphur-based

neutralisers transformed pre-

viously unproductive land

into fertile fields suitable for

cultivating vegetables like

bitter gourd, pumpkin, bottle

"Farmers can now harvest

around 10 quintals of veg-

etables every alternate day

within two to three months

of neutraliser application,"

said Dr Nirmalendu Basak.

The neutralisers not only

improved water quality but

also enhanced soil health and

crop yields. "These are effec-

tive options for crop diversifi-

cation in moderately alkaline

water-irrigated areas," said

With these advancements,

the CSSRI team plans to

submit their findings to

ICAR for further dissemina-

tion. The development

marks a step forward in sus-

tainable agriculture, offer-

ing hope to farmers grap-

pling with challenges of

alkalinity and water scarcity.

Dr Arvind Kumar Rai,

gourd and ridged gourd.

The breakthrough involved

Two Naib **Tehsildars** suspended

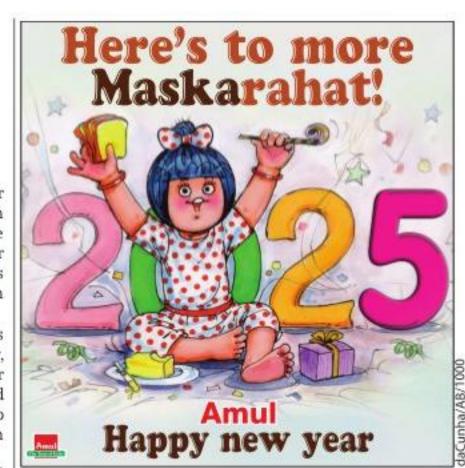
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 31 Haryana Revenue Minister Vipul Goel has taken action against two officials of the Revenue Department for negligence in their duties by suspending them with immediate effect.

The suspended officials are Amit Kumar Yadav, Naib Tehsildar of Kadipur in Gurugram district and Raghubir Singh, Naib Tehsildar of Satnali in Mahendergarh district.

Goel has directed all Tehsildars and Naib Tehsildars across the state to prioritise their responsibilities and ensure that the public does not face any inconvenience. He emphasised that strict action will be taken against any official found negligent in performing their duties.

Highlighting the state's commitment to the welfare of all citizens, Goel reminded officials that it is their responsibility to ensure that welfare schemes and programmes reach every eligible individual, especially those in need.





People beat the chill by sitting near a bonfire in Kamal, WARUN GULATI

Biochemical oxygen demand levels of irrigation water reach alarming heights

Ineffective monitoring, inadequate preventive measures to blame

BIJENDRA AHLAWAT TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

FARIDABAD, DECEMBER 31

The rampant release of untreated waste has led to a severe increase in the biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) levels in the Yamuna and irrigation canals in the Faridabad and Palwal districts. Sources in the district administration reveal that BOD levels are now 400-500% above the permissible limits due to ineffective monitoring and inadequate preventive measures.

As per the National Green Tribunal's (NGT) guidelines, the BOD standard for water is 10 milligrams per litre. However, recent water samples indicate levels between 35 and 40 at most points, with some locations in the Yamuna peaking at 50 milligrams per litre. "The release of untreated waste not only increases BOD levels but also reduces dissolved oxygen (DO) levels to zero, wiping out aquatic life and causing a strong stench," said Dr Shiv Singh Rawat, retired senior official of the Irrigation Department, BOD

AIIMS/BLS/Acad/EMT/2024-7793

Particulars

Total No. of Seats

(ONLINE) and 20th January 2025 (OFFLINE).



Untreated waste lying in a drain in Faridabad. FILE PHOTO

oxygen the required by microorganisms to decompose organic matter in water. Experts note that high BOD levels point to a failure in wastewater treatment and sewage management. According to officials, the untreated industrial and chemical waste entering water bodies has been a persistent issue.

The Yamuna stretches for 100 km through Faridabad and Palwal, while the Agra and Gurugram canals, originating from the Okhla Barrage in New Delhi, run 70 to 80 km before reaching Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan. Arvind Sharma, Sub-Divisional Officer (SDO) in the

31st December, 2024

Details

10 Nos.

(UR-06, OBC-02, SC-01, EWS-01)

Irrigation Department, said while no complaints have emerged from his jurisdiction, violations of the Canal Act are prosecutable offences. Sandeep Singh, an official of the Haryana State Pollution Control Board (HSPCB), said water samples are collected regularly and reports submitted to relevant authorities. The onus of monitoring lies

with the Irrigation Department and the HSPCB, while civic bodies are tasked with preventing unauthorised waste disposal. However, the situation continues to deteriorate due to lax enforcement and rising pollution levels.

File No. 59/3/2021-NMET

भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA खान मंत्रालय / MINISTRY OF MINES

राष्ट्रीय खनिज खोज न्यास / NATIONAL MINERAL EXPLORATION TRUST

Invites applications for 01 post of Director General in pay Level-14 (₹ 1,44,200-₹ 2,18,200) in National Mineral Exploration Trust to be filled by deputation from officers with pay Level-14 in the Central Government/State Governments.

The last date for receipt of applications for the post in the National Mineral Exploration Trust is 30.01.2025. For details, please visit the website: <www.nmet.gov.in>, <www.mines.gov.in>

CBC 26113/12/0004/2425

Sd/- (Geetika Sharma) Deputy Secretary and HoD

ਇੰਡੀਅਨ ਰੈੱਡ ਕਰਾਸ ਸੋਸਾਇਟੀ ਜ਼ਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਬਰਾਂਚ ਸੰਗਰੂਰ ਇਸ਼ਤਿਹਾਰ ਖੁੱਲੀ ਬੋਲੀ

1. ਰੋਂਡ ਕਰਾਸ ਕੰਪਲੈਕਸ ਵਿਖੇ ਦੁਕਾਨ, ਬੀ.ਐਸ.ਐਨ.ਐਲ. ਰੋਂਡ, ਸੰਗਰੂਰ (ਰਿਜ਼ਰਵ ਕੀਮਤ ਮੁ: 23,600/- ਰੂ:)

ਰੈੱਡ ਕਰਾਸ ਸੋਸਾਇਟੀ, ਸੰਗਰਰ ਦੀਆਂ ਹੇਠ ਲਿਖੇ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ ਬਿਲਡਿੰਗਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਖੁੱਲੀ ਬੋਲੀ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਕਿਰਾਏ 'ਤੇ

2. ਰੈੱਡ ਕਰ ਸ ਦਫਤਰ, ਸੰਗਰਰ ਦੀ ਬਿਲਡਿੰਗ (ਰਿਜ਼ਰਵ ਕੀਮਤ ਮ: 1,88,000/- ਰ:)

ਰੈੱਡ ਕਰਾਸ ਕੰਪਲੈਕਸ ਵਿਖੇ ਦੁਕਾਨ, ਬੀ.ਐਸ.ਐਨ.ਐਲ. ਰੈਂਡ, ਸੰਗਰੂਰ ਦੀ ਬੋਲੀ ਸਵੇਰੇ 11.00 ਵਜੇ ਅਤੇ ਰੈੱਡ ਕਰਾਸ ਦਫਤਰ, ਸੰਗਰਰ ਦੀ ਬਿਲਡਿੰਗ ਦੀ ਬੋਲੀ ਸਵੇਰੇ 1130 ਵਜੇ ਮਿਤੀ 10/01/2025 ਨੈ ਮੀਟਿੰਗ ਹਾਲ, ਦਫਤਰ ਡਿਪਟੀ ਕਮਿਸ਼ਨਰ, ਸੰਗਰੂਰ ਵਿਖੇ ਸ਼ੁਰੂ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾਵੇਗੀ। ਬੋਲੀ ਦੇਣ ਸਮੇਂ ਮੁ: 10,000/- ਰੂ ਸਕਿਊਰਿਟੀ ਵਜੋਂ ਚੈੱਕ/ਭਰਾਵਟ ਜਾਂ ਕੈਸ਼ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਜੁਮਾਂ ਕਰਾਉਣੇ ਹੋਣਗੇ। ਜਿਸ ਵਿਅਕਤੀ ਦੇ ਹੱਕ ਵਿਚ ਬੋਲੀ ਟੱਟੋਗੀ, ਉਸ ਦੀ ਰਕਮ ਦਫਤਰ ਵਿਚ ਜਮ੍ਹਾਂ ਰਹੇਗੀ ਅਤੇ ਕਿਰਾਏ ਵਿਚ ਕੱਟੀ ਜਾਵੇਗੀ। ਬਾਕੀ ਵਿਅਕਤੀਆਂ ਨੂੰ ਇਹ ਰਕਮ ਵਾਪਿਸ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾਵੇਗੀ। ਬੋਲੀ ਦੀਆਂ ਸ਼ਰਤਾਂ ਰੈੱਡ ਕਰਾਸ ਦਫਤਰ ਵਿਖੇ ਦਫਤਰੀ ਸਮੇਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਵੀ ਕੰਮ ਵਾਲੇ ਦਿਨ ਅਤੇ ਇਸ ਜ਼ਿਲ੍ਹੇ ਦੀ ਵੈੱਬਸਾਈਟ "sangrur.nic.in"

'ਤੇ ਦੇਖੀਆਂ ਜਾ ਸਕਦੀਆਂ ਹਨ। ਭਿਪਟੀ ਕਮਿਸ਼ਨਰ ਕਮ-ਪਧਾਨ, ਜ਼ਿਲਾ ਹੈੱਡ ਕਰਾਸ ਸੋਸਾਇਟੀ, ਜ਼ਿਲਾ

ਸੰਗਰੂਰ ਜੀ ਪਾਸ ਬਗੈਰ ਕਾਰਨ ਦੱਸੇ ਬੋਲੀ ਨੂੰ ਰੱਦ ਕਰਨ ਦਾ ਹੱਕ ਰਾਖਵਾਂ ਹੋਵੇਗਾ। ਇਸ਼ਤਿਹਾਰ ਵਿਚ

ਸੋਧ/ਵਾਧਾ, ਜੇਕਰ ਹੋਇਆ, ਤਾਂ ਸਿਰਫ ਵੈੱਬਸਾਈਟ ਉਪਰ ਹੀ ਜਾਂਚੀ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾਵੇਗਾ।

ਸਹੀ/- ਨਵਨੀਤ ਕੌਰ ਤੁਰ, ਸਕੱਤਰ, ਜ਼ਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਰੈੱਡ ਕਰਾਸ ਸੋਸਾਇਟੀ, ਸੰਗਰੂਰ ਮੋਬਾਇਲ ਨੰ: 96463-03920

DPR/PB/40340

E-mail: redcrosssgr234272@gmail.com

JOINT ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION (For the State of Goa and Union Territories)



Ph. No 0124-4684705

Himachal Pradesh Power Corporation Limited (A State Govt. Undertaking) Corporate Identity Number: U40101HP2006SGC030591 Himfed Building, BCS, Shimla-09 (HP) Ph.: +91-177 2672854; Email: dgm_sop@hppcl.in

🗱 अखिल भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान, बिलासपुर

हिमाचल प्रदेश — १७४०३७

ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES.

BILASPUR, HIMACHAL PRADESH — 174037

https://aiimsbilaspur.edu.in

E-mail: dean.acad@aiimsbilaspur.edu.in

NOTIFICATION

who have passed 10+2 Science (Medical/Non-Medical) for Emergency

Format of the applications and other details can be downloaded from the

official website of AIIMS, Bilaspur, H.P. (website www.aiimsbilaspur.edu.in). The filled application with necessary enclosures (as specified in the form)

must be submitted to the Academic Section addressed to The Dean (Academic), AIIMS Bilaspur, H.P. – 174001 on or before 15th January 2025

Medical Technician Diploma Course of 02 years duration.

AIMS, Bilaspur, H.P. invites applications from interested candidates

National Open Competitive Bidding

INVITATION FOR BIDS

(E-Tender Mode only)

National Open Competitive Bids (Open Tendering Mode) are invited from prospective bidders/firms for the tender titled Bid Tender No. 01-WB/Bundled RTC/2024: "HIRING OF POWER TRADER/ AGGREGATOR BY HPPCL FOR DEVELOPING AND OPERATIONALIZING A GREEN BUNDLED PRODUCT WITH AN IDENTIFIED HYDROPOWER CAPACITY AND OTHER RENEWABLE ENERGY (RE) CAPACITY."

Starting of Sale of Bid Document: 10:00 Hrs on 01.01.2025 Deadline for Submission of Bids: 14:00 Hrs. on 05.02.2025 Opening of Bids : 15:00 Hrs. on 05.02.2025

Cost of Bidding Document: INR 25,000/- (Indian Rupees Twenty five Thousand) only (inclusive of GST).

For detailed tender notification, please visit www.hppcl.in or https://www.tenderwizard.in/HPPCL. Dy. General Manager (SoP)



Sector-18, Gurugram Haryana-122015

E-mail: aao.jercuts@gov.in, Website: www.jercuts.gov.in

PUBLIC NOTICE

In exercise of the powers conferred by 181 of the Electricity Act, 2003 (36 of 2003), read with Section 61, 66 and 86 thereof and all other powers enabling it in this, the Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission proposes the Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for the State of Goa and the Union Territories (Framework for Resource Adequacy) Regulations.

Accordingly, the draft Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for the State of Goa and the Union Territories (Framework for Resource Adequacy) Regulations, 2024 is available on the website of the Commission i.e., www.jercuts.gov.in for comments/suggestions of the stakeholder.

The comments/suggestions on the above stated regulation may be forwarded to the Commission by post or by email addressed to the Secretary, Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission (for the State of Goa & Union Territories), 3rd & 4th Floor, Plot No. 55-56, Udyog Vihar, Phase-IV, Sector Haryana 122015 Gurugram, secy.jercuts@gov.in) latest by 24 January, 2025.

CBC-34124/12/0017/2425

Secretary, (I/c), JERC

Cold wave tightens grip, temp below normal The lowest minimum tem- India, including Haryana, wave, highlighting an advi-

DEEPENDER DESWAL

Haryana continues to reel under a cold wave with the maximum temperature remaining below normal by 6.7°C, though the average maximum temperature recorded a slight rise by 0.7°C in comparison to yesterday.

The lowest maximum temperature of 11.3°C was recorded in Ambala, which is 7.2°C below the normal. The highest maximum temperature was recorded in Sirsa at 17.6°C, a rise from vesterday's 15.8°C.

Despite the slight increase. the weather remained harsh, with cold day to severe cold day conditions reported in several parts of the state. The weather has largely been dry across the state. According to the Indian

Meteorological Department, a western disturbance is currently being observed as a cyclonic circulation over East Afghanistan. Additionally, a fresh western disturbance is expected to impact Northwest

ing weather conditions. The fresh western distur-

bance might provide relief,

but till then residents have been advised to take precautions as the cold wave conditions persist. The Haryana Government has announced the closure of all schools from January 1 to January 15 in view of the cold wave.

Bhiwani Deputy Commissioner Mahavir Kaushik has issued guidelines for protection against the severe cold

perature today was regis- from January 4, which may sory released by the State tered in Narnaul at 4.5°C. bring changes in the prevail- Revenue and Disaster Management Department. He has urged people to take preventive measures to combat the effects of the cold wave.

> He said during cold wave conditions, people should stay indoors as much as possible and minimise travel to avoid exposure to winds. Special care should be given to children and the elderly. It is crucial to have emergency supplies readilv available, he stated.

RECRUITMENT NOTICE GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB

Recruitment Notice Reference No. Admn/PSACS/2024/dated as are invited for the following post in Puniah State AIDS Control

Socie	ety	ne ronowing post in r	runjab state AIDs Com
Sr. No.	Name of the post	Number of vacancies	Salary per month (in Rs.)
1.	Divisional Assistant	1 SC (Female)	23,800/-

Last date & time: 10.01.2025 & 05:00 p.m. For details logon to: http://punjabsacs.punjab.gov.in

Note:- Any corrigendum(s) to the recruitment notice shall be published on the above website.

Punjab State AIDS Control Society

DIRECTORATE OF SPORTS, PUNJAB Yuva Bhavan, Sector 42-A, Chandigarh — 160036 REGARDING CASH AWARD OF COACHES

Applications are invited for cash award to felicitate the coaches of the sportspersons of Punjab who have won medals in international tournaments by the Sports Department, Government of Punjab as per Sports Policy - 2018 and New Sports Policy - 2023 for the session

of the year 2023-24 and 2024-25 (dated 01.04.2023 to 30.12.2024) Cash award proforma, checklist, advertisement and other details are available on sports department website www.pbsports.punjab.gov.in. Details of Eligibility criteria are mentioned in the Cash Prize Policy, 2019.

Eligible coaches should submit their application in the prescribed proforma along with the specified documents mentioned in the check list from 01.01.2025 to 31.01.2025 at the Head Office by

Note: It is also publicly notified that henceforth coaches can apply for their cash awards under the New Sports Policy 2023 at the office of Director of Sports Punjab as and when they become eligible upon the successful completion of the eligible sports event.

Sd/- Director Sports, Punjab

ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOL BATHINDA CANTT (ENGLISH MEDIUM, CBSE AFFILIATED) website: www.apsbathinda.org 1. Army Public School, Sri Ganganagar and Faridkot, require the following

staff against existing/anticipated vacancies on Regular basis :-

Place of work	Name of Post	Salary
APS Sri Gan gana gar	PGT- Chemistry, Maths	Basic Pay Rs 32430/-
APS Faridkot	TGT- English, Counsellor	Basic Pay Rs 31430/-

2. Passing the Online Screening Test is henceforth NOT MANDATORY for appearing for the interview and evaluation of Teaching Skills & Computer proficiency however, after selection for the post of a teacher(Regular), the candidate must pass the OST within two years of being appointed with a minimum overall raw score of 50%(100 marks). 3. For Eligibility Criteria and qualification required, please refer to school's

website: www.apsbathinda.org. 4. The above mentioned posts are for Regular appointment. The selection

process will include interview followed by evaluation of teaching skills.

5. Candidates may apply on prescribed application form available on AWES website www.awesindia.com and also available on school website www. apsbathinda.org. Candidates may download the application form through the above website. Duly completed form in all respect, along with self attested photocoy of all testimonials(Academic & experience) and a demand draft of Rs 250/-(Rupees Two Hundred Fifty Only)(Non refundable) is required to be submitted in favour of the school where willing to apply. Submit the application in the OPTED SCHOOL ONLY. List of short listed candidates for interview will be intimated via email. Last date for submission of application is 15 Jan 2025 to the respective schools only.

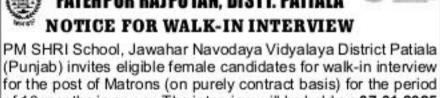
Note:- No applications will be accepted via email. Only hard copy by hand/ post will be accepted.

6. Date & time of interview will be intimated to only short listed candidates through mobile/telephonically/e-mail. Kindly mention your e-mail ID for 7. Decision of SAMC (School Administrative & Managing Committee) wil

be final and abiding.

Principal

PM SHRI JAWAHAR NAVODAYA VIDYALAYA FATEHPUR RAJPUTAN, DISTT. PATIALA NOTICE FOR WALK-IN INTERVIEW



(Punjab) invites eligible female candidates for walk-in interview for the post of Matrons (on purely contract basis) for the period of 10 months in a year. The interview will be held on 07.01.2025 at 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM in the office of the Principal, PM SHRI School, Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya District Patiala. Detail and information about these posts has been put on Vidyalaya web: https://navodaya.gov.in/nvs/nvs-school/Patiala/en/home/ like eligibility, pay scale, age limit, etc.

Sd/- Principal

e-mail id: principaljnvpatiala@gmail.com

OFFICE OF DIRECTORATE OF HIGHER **EDUCATION PUNJAB, S.A.S. NAGAR** Punjab School Education Board Building Complex,

E-Block, 7th Floor, Sector-62, S.A.S. Nagar

PUBLIC NOTICE SCHEDULE OF COUNSELLING/DOCUMENT VERIFICATION FOR RECRUITMENT OF ASSISTANT PROFESSORS AND LIBRARIANS

In compliance of decisions in various CWPs and representations egarding discrepancies in the results for recruitment of 1158 Assistant Professors and Librarians in Government colleges of Punjab, selection committees revisited and prepared the tentative selection lists. Counselling/document verification will be conducted at SMHS Govt. College, Phase 6, S.A.S. Nagar on 02.01.2025, 03.01.2025 and 04.01.2025 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The candidates are required to bring original documents comprising academic certificate, domicile/residence certificate along with attested photocopy of all testimonials. No separate correspondence shall be made in this regard by the department. Personal appearance of candidate is mandatory during counselling. Candidates shall make their own arrangements for overnight stay in case their counselling gets delayed to next day(s). Absent candidate shall not be considered and claim for selection.

For other details and list of candidates calling for counselling/ of documents, https://eservices.gndu.ac.in/govtrecruitment/index.aspx Director Higher Education Punjab



TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This notice serves to inform the general public, Sector Skill Councils as well as our valued Training Partners that National Skill Development Corporation w.e.f. October 14, 2024, has ceased all employment relations with Mr. Sanjeeva K Singh, previously employed as Executive Vice President (Impact Financing).

Please note that Mr. Sanjeeva K Singh is no longer

authorized to represent, engage or transact on behalf of National Skill Development Corporation, Any interaction, transaction, communication or agreement made with Mr. Sanjeeva K Singh after October 14, 2024 shall be done at your own legal risk, cost and consequences and will not be acknowledged or honoured by National Skill Development Corporation.

National Skill Development Corporation disclaims any responsibility for agreements or commitments made by Mr. Sanjeeva K Singh post October 14, 2024.

For any inquiries or assistance, please contact us at hr@nsdcindia.org CBC 63113/12/0008/2025

Suspended jathedarflays **SGPC** probe

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

BATHINDA, DECEMBER 31 The suspended Jathedar of Takht Damdama Sahib, Giani Harpreet Singh, on

Tuesday slammed the SGPC for opening a probe against him.

"I have learnt that an unauthorised committee formed to investigate baseless charges against me has been given more time. If they think that the allegations against me are true, they should terminate my services," he said.

The probe pertains to a

by Gurpreet complaint Singh of Muktsar, who claimed that he was married to the Jathedar's sister-inlaw. In his complaint to the SGPC on December 16, Gurpreet alleged that the Jathedar interfered in his married life, leading to his separation. He claimed the Jathedar used his influence to harass him and entangled him in court cases. He said he was an employee of the SGPC, but lost his job and slipped into depression.

'Deliberate act': SGPC demands judicial probe into UP encounter

3 Punjab youths accused of Gurdaspur grenade attack were killed in Pilibhit

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

AMRITSAR, DECEMBER 31

The SGPC executive on Tuesday demanded a judicial inquiry into the killing of three Punjab youths in a police encounter in Pilibhit, Uttar Pradesh.

On December 23, a joint team of the Punjab and Uttar Pradesh police killed three suspected terrorists, who were allegedly involved in a grenade attack on a police post in Gurdaspur, in an encounter in Pilibhit's Puranpur.

During a meeting of the executive, which was held under the chairmanship of SGPC president Harjinder Singh Dhami, a resolution, raising serious questions over the police encounter, was passed. This is a very serious matter and it seems like a deliberate act to target Punjab's youths," the resolution read, which also termed the encounter a serious viola-



SGPC executive members at a meeting in Amritsar. TRIBUNE PHOTO

JUNKS CALL TO EXCOMMUNICATE CHAURA

- The SGPC executive passed a resolution rejecting the demand for excommunicating Narain Singh Chaura from the Panth
- A former terrorist, Chaura recently tried to assassinate SAD leader Sukhbir Singh Badal outside the GoldenTemple

GIVES MORE TIME TO PROBE PANEL

The Sikh body extended the duration of the panel probing harassment charges against Giani Harpreet Singh, the suspended Jathedar of Takht Damdama Sahib, by a month

tion of the human rights.

The SGPC also passed a resolution rejecting the demand for excommunicating former terrorist Narain Singh Chaura from the Panth. Chaura recently tried

to assassinate SAD leader

Sukhbir Singh Badal outside the GoldenTemple.

The Sikh body also extended the duration of the panel probing charges against Giani Harpreet Singh, the suspended Jathedar of Takht Damdama Sahib, by a month.

The probe panel was formed in the previous executive meeting held on December 19 to probe allegations against the jathedar. Resolving to hold an impartial probe against the jathedar, the executive reasoned that the decision was taken on account of the proposed elections to the Haryana Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee.

The executive condoled the demise of former Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh by reciting "mool mantar" and passing a resolution, highlighting the veteran leader's contribution to the country's growth and hailing his statesmanship.

Patiala (531) in 2024. The IG said the police also forfeited 531 properties worth Rs 335 crore of big smugglers this year. He said 71 drug consumers, caught with little quantity of drugs, availed relaxation under Section 64-A of the NDPS by pledging to

> Listing achievements, Gill said, "From the series of attacks on police establishments to high-profile killings of Hindu leader Vikas Bagga at Nangal and ex-terrorist

go for rehab, he added.

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 31

ing 12,255 FIRs in 2024.

briefing on Tuesday.

He said police teams recov-

ered 1,099 kg heroin, 991 kg

opium, 414 quintals poppy

husk and 2.94 lakh tablets,

capsules, injections and vials

of pharma opioids from

across the state. Besides, Rs

14.73 crore drug money had

Bathinda witnessed the

registration of maximum

number of 601 drug smug-

gling cases followed by

Nawanshahr (572) and

been recovered, he said.



In crackdown on drug trade,

8,935 peddlers held in '24: IG

IGP Sukhchain Singh Gill

Ratandeep Singh, the state police left no stone unturned in bringing the perpetrators to justice."

Other notable cases solved included the hand grenade attack at a house in Sector 10, Chandigarh and at a petrol station in Mansa; besides the triple murder case in Ferozepur. Gill said as part of the ongoing drive against proclaimed offenders and absconders under the NDPS cases, the police arrested 843 accused in 2024.

Recounting success against gangsters, the IG said the Anti-Gangster Task Force (AGTF) along with field units succeeded in busting 198 modules by arresting 559 gangsters/criminals and seized 482 weapons, 102 vehicles, 7 Kg heroin and Rs 2.14 crore drug money from their possession.

At least 64 exchanges of fire took place between police parties and criminals, during which three gangsters/criminals were neutralised and 63 arrested.

"Unfortunately, one of our colleagues attained martyrdom while nine police personnel suffered injuries," Gill said. Providing details on action against terrorists, the officersaid the Internal Security Wing busted 12 modules with the arrest of 66 terror-

It also seized two rifles, 76 revolvers and pistols, two improvised explosive devices (IEDs), 758 grams of RDX and other explosives, four hand grenades and 257 drones.

Police teams recovered 185 kg heroin, 24 pistols, an AK-47 rifle, an IED and Rs 4.18 lakh drug money dropped via drones, Gill said and added there were 513 drone sightings during the year.

Acting against the use of mobile phones inside jails, the Punjab Police blacklisted 2,348 IMEI numbers and blocked 731 mobile numbers. At least 483 social media accounts glorifying gangsters and promoting violence were also blocked, he said.

The Punjab government has been focusing on strengthening and modernisation of the police force, the IGP said.

FARIDKOT, DECEMBER 31

In a move against drug trafficking, the Faridkot police seized properties, worth Rs 3.38 crore of 13 notorious drug peddlers operating in taken under the stringent SSP, Faridkot. - TNS

provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, a law aimed at curbing drugrelated crimes and disrupting the activities of drug the district. The action was cartels, said Dr Pragya Jain,

सार्वजनिक सूचना

इस पब्लिक नोटिस के मार्फत जन-साधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि प्रार्थों निशात सिंघल पुत्र/पुत्री/पत्नी त्व. श्री राकेश कुमार सिंघल निवासी ∆-55, द्रिब्यून कॉलोनी, अम्बाला छावनी ने अपने पिता के कानूनी वारिस की रिपोर्ट जारी करने के हेतु एक प्रार्थना पत्र इस कार्यालय में प्राप्त हुआ है। प्रार्थी द्वारा पेश प्रार्थना पत्र व संलग्न हलफनामा व रिपोर्ट पार्षद/नंबरदार/पटवारी अनुसार मृतक स्व. राकेश कुमार सिंघल पुत्र/पुत्री/पत्नी श्रं अमरनाथ सिंघल के निम्नलिखित कानुनी वारिस हैं:-

I. विपुल सिंघल, मकान नं. A-55, ट्रिब्यून कॉलोनी, अम्बाला छावनी।- (पत्नी) 2. नताशा गुप्ता, मकान नं. 338, अर्बन एस्टेट, फेस 1, पटियाला यूनिवर्सिटी, जिला पटियाला, पंजाब। - (पुत्री

निशांत सिंघल, मकान नं. A-55, ट्रिब्यून कॉलोनी, अम्बाला छावनी। - (पुत्र)

यदि उपरोक्त वारसान रिपोर्ट बारे किसी व्यक्ति को कोई आपत्ति है तो वह तहसीलदार, अम्बाला छावनी वे कार्यालय में प्रकाशन के 15 दिन के अंदर-अंदर आपत्ति दर्ज करवा सकता है। यदि प्रार्थी द्वारा दी गई सुचन किसी भी समय गलत पाई जाती हैं. तो प्रार्थी भारतीय दण्ड संहिता की धारा 177 व अन्य संबंधित काननों वे

Assets worth ₹3 cr seized No fresh FIR in Kapurthala farm case; didn't employ kids: Owner

APARNA BANERJI

BRINDPUR, DECEMBER 31

Two days after 11 children were rescued from a potato farm at Brindpur in Kapurthala, the state police were yet to file a fresh FIR against the owner.

Though two FIRs were registered against two contractors in Bihar on the charges of child labour and sexual exploitation of a 15-year-old girl, the state police were yet to act.

When contacted, Kapurthala SSP Gaurav Toora said, "An FIRwas lodged in Punjab after a raid on the same farm in November: We are in the process of filing a chargesheet



Teja Singh (left) the owner of Pehalwan Farms, tribune photo: MALKIAT SINGH

in that case."

DSP Deep Karan Singh said. "The first complaint against Bigan Rai (one of the contractors) received on November 21, following which the farm was raided and eight persons, including a minor, were rescued. The information regarding FIRs in Bihar was received on Sunday. After verification, we will also file an FIR."

Meanwhile, Teja Singh (82), the owner of the farm who is at the centre of the controversy involving employment of child labour at his Pehalwan Farms, rejected the charges. An FIR was filed against Teja Singh at Sadar police station on December 25, pertaining to a raid in November) under Section 3 of the Child Labour Prohibition and Regulation Act, 1986 for employing a child labour. The contractor employed at his farm is absconding. Two FIRs

were filed against the contractor (Bigan Rai) in Bihar.

A former lightweight wrestler. Teja Singh said hewas distraught at the charges levelled against him. "Asi ration, paisa, ghar ditta, Chatth Puja rakhvai... par sadde te galat ilazam lag gya. (We gave ration, money and accommodation, and organised Chath Puja for them, but they levelled false

charges against us)," he said. Teja Singh claimed he first got to know about Bigan Rai from another potato farmer and had no inkling about his involvement in criminal cases.

He said, "Bigan had employed many labourers in our farms. We paid him Rs 7-8 lakh this season. Labourers from Bihar live with their children. He didn't tell us he had also employed them. We are not aware of the 16-18 work hours or the sexual abuse charge."

SH. SOHAN LAL PAHWA

No invitation for talks yet from SC-named panel: Farm unions

SUSHIL GOYAL

SANGRUR, DECEMBER 31 Speaking on behalf of the

Samyukt Kisan Morcha (Non-political) and the Kisan Mazdoor Morcha (KMM), farm leader Abhimanyu Kohar today said none of these unions had received any invitation from the Supreme Court-appointed committee, formed to look into the issues of farmers, for January 3 meeting in

Panchkula. In the same breath, he said they would not go to attend the meeting with the com-

mittee at any cost. On December 16, the kisan unions received an invitation from the committee to hold talks on December 18, however, farm leader Jagjit Singh Dallewal, whose fastunto-death entered Day 36 today at the Khanauri border, wrote to the panel stating that their demands were related to the Centre, thus



Farm leader Abhimanyu Kohar addresses the media on Tuesday.

they would only talk to them, said Kohar, adding that other farm unions were free to participate in the meeting on January 3.

Kohar pointed out that Parliamentary Committee on Agriculture in its report in mid-December, the SCappointed committee in its 11-page interim report in November and PM Narendra Modi (then CM of Gujarat) as a chairman of the Central Consumer Affairs Committee in his report in 2011, had empha-

sised on the enactment of the minimum support price

(MSP) guarantee law.

Besides, the Swaminathan Commission in its recommendations had also recommended fixation of the MSP as per CT+50 per cent formula, he added. He said they were just demanding enactment of the MSP guarantee law from the Centre. Lakhwinder Singh Aulakh, president, Bhartiya Kisan Ekta, Haryana, said they had received inputs that the government had been

gathering forces in Punjab.

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2.	0SNP1712000005009748, Vijender Singh, Geeta	Rs. 5,67,127/-	23-09-2024	Plot measuring 140 Square Yards, Khewat No. 254, Khata No. 273 Kitte – 8 of land measuring 51K-16M-0S Situated in the Revenue Estate of Village Gohana, Tehsil Gohana, Distt. Sonipat, Haryana -131101	28-12-2024
3.	0REW1707000005007094, RAJBIR, ANITA	Rs. 5,41,347/-	23-09-2024	Residential House No. 370 Admeasuring 144 Sq.Yds Lal Dora Situated at Mauja - Subana, Tehsil & District Jhajjar, Haryana-124109	28-12-2024
4.	0KAR2102000005035161, KULDEEP, KAVITA	Rs. 8,36,507/-	23-09-2024	House Village Pingli Abadi Deh Under Lal Dora Tehsil and District Karnal Haryana -132001	28-12-2024
5.	0GGN2201000005042916, Ram Kanwar, Pinki	Rs. 9,93,867/-	22-10-2024	Property situated at Dhani Mahtab Das, Balmiki Basti , Tehsil & District Bhiwani, Haryana-127021	28-12-2024
6.	0REW1703000005004564, Sunil Sharma, Niraj Kumar	Rs. 6,94,039-	22-10-2024	A - Class Building , Khewat No . 162, Khatoni No . 185 , Mustil No . 67 Killa No . 28 /2 (13-3) , Kitat 1 Tadadi 13 Kanal 13 Marla 7/23 Part Bakdar 7 Marla (200 Sq.Yds), Waka Bawal Tehsil Bawal , Dist. Rewari, Haryana - 123501 .	28-12-2024
7.	0SNP1710000005008654, Ram Parkash, Indra Vati	Rs. 4,84,490-	22-10-2024	Khewat No. 340, Khata No. 469, Killa No. 31//1/1// 0-3 waka Rakba Mouja Kundi, Tehsil & Distt- Sonipat, Haryana - 131028	28-12-2024
8.	OSNP1810000005015455, Subhash Kumar, Suresh Kumar, Chandrawati, Anita Kumari, Pappu.	Rs. 8,52,642-	22-10-2024	Plot measuring 125 Sq-Yds Khewat No.689 min, Khata No.869 min Rectangle & Killa No.6//21(7-12) Situated in the Reveune Estate of baiyanpur Tehsil & Disti Sonipat Haryana -131001	28-12-2024



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Erratic weather forcing shift from apple to other fruits

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SHIMLA, DECEMBER 31

Erratic weather and rising input costs are pushing apple growers into growing stone fruits like almonds, plum, apricot, cherry, etc. Another fruit that has attracted the attention of apple growers is persimmon. Over the last few years.

there has been a noticeable shift towards these fruits in the apple belts. The biggest push for diversification has come from erratic weather. The traditional apple varieties need around 800-1,200 chilling hours in winter. With the reduction in snowfall and the winter season becoming dry and warm, it is becoming increasingly tough to get the required chilling hours.

"It will be very difficult to

meet the chilling hour requirement of the traditional apple varieties in the future. especially in the mid and low apple belts. The way forward is to go for fruits that require much less chilling hours, around 300-500 hours and fruits like plums, almond, apricot and persimmon need much lesser chilling hours," said Deepak Singha, president of Stone Fruit Growers Association. "No wonder, several apple growers have started growing these fruits along with apple, which is facing multiple challenges at the moment," he said.

Lokinder Bisht, president of the Progressive Growers Association, said the shift towards alternative fruits has begun, and it is likely to intensify in the near future. "Apart from the

A worker harvests the apple crop in upper Shimla. TRIBUNE PHOTO: LALIT KUMAR

milk

"Himachal is the first state

in the country to introduce

minimum support price for

milk procurement. Cow

milk is being procured at Rs

45 per litre and buffalo milk

Sukhu said the state gov-

ernment would spend Rs

plants in the state. "A state-

lakh litre capacity per day

operational in March 2026,

benefitting the milk pro-

ducers from Kangra, Una,

Hamirpur and other neigh-

Animal Husbandry Minis-

ter Prof Chander Kumar

was present at the meeting.

litres," he said.

bouring districts.

at Rs 55 per litre," he said.

Milk purchase to be digitised

in 10 societies, says Sukhu

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Chief Minister Sukhvinder

Singh Sukhu today said

digitisation of milk procure-

ment would be started in 10

Presiding over a review

meeting of the Animal Hus-

bandry Department here

today, he said focus must be on

individual milk testing, real-

time data management with

"Digitisation would ensure

hassle-free and seamless

operations of the milk pro-

curement which would also

go a long way in maintaining

The Chief Minister also

instructed to ensure GPS-

enabled route tracking

and optimisation for effi-

cient milk transportation.

Sukhu said the state gov-

ernment is strengthening

the rural economy by pro-

viding remunerative prices

transparency," he said.

web and mobile interface.

societies on a pilot basis.

SHIMLA, DECEMBER 31

erratic weather, the input cost in apple cultivation has shot through the roof, especially after Covid. The net profit in apple cultivation has reduced to below 50 per cent of the total sale. Due to erratic weather, crop failure and plant mortality is on the rise. Overall, it's becoming increasingly difficult to keep apple cultivation sustainable," said Bisht, Compared to the input cost in apple cultivation, the input cost in these fruits is significantly less.

Meanwhile, the Horticulture Department is also pushing diversification. Under the Himachal Pradesh Horticulture Development Project, planting material for fruits like almonds, apricot has been imported to push diversification in apple belts.



BEAS-SUTLEJ LINK PROJECT

Displaced 45 years ago, 5 families yet to get ownership of alternative land

DIPENDER MANTA TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

MANDI, DECEMBER 31

Five families from Malhanu village in Balh tehsil of Mandi district filed petitions with the Chairman of the Legislative Assembly Petition Committee in Shimla yesterday seeking ownership rights over the land that was promised to them in 1979.

The families, displaced by the Beas Sutlej Link Project, have been waiting for nearly half a century to receive formal ownership of the land granted to them in exchange for their acquired land.

The five petitioners -Shankar, Parma Nand, Atma Ram, Balak Ram, and Mani Ram — were among the many displaced by the construction of a canal for the Beas-Sutlei Link Project.

According to these families, under a state government policy for displaced families, these individuals were allocateda total of 36 bighas. The possession of this land was officially handed over to them by Naib Tehsildar (Rehabilitation) in 1979. As part of the arrangement, the families deposited the required 'nazrana' (land fee) and com-



The displaced petitioners with lawyer BR Kondal in Mandi.

pensation for forest produce.

"However, despite completing all necessary formalities, including the payment of required fee, we have been unable to secure official ownership of the land due to a delay in the sanctioning order by the Deputy Commissioner of Mandi. Although we were assured of getting ownership rights, the matter has been under the Deputy Commissioner's consideration for 45 years, with no final decision being made," claimed Shankar, Parma Nand, Atma Ram, Balak Ram, and Mani Ram.

The Deputy Commissioner has indicated that the matter is still pending approval from the state government because there are no official documents or order available to transfer government land on the name of these affected families. However, the petitioners contend that the Deputy Commissioner has the authority to grant ownership rights under the state's policy for displaced families, and that the delay is unjustified. They said that the Sub-Divisional Officer of the area has written to the Deputy

Commissioner recommend-

ing that an order be passed for the attestation of the mutation of the land, further supporting the petitioners' claim.

In response to the prolonged delay and lack of action, the families have now escalated the issue to the Legislative Assembly Petition Committee, which was recently reconstituted by the state government. The petitioners are hopeful the committee would facilitate a resolution, avoiding the need for a legal battle.

BR Kondal, a legal expert, who has been assisting the petitioners, expressed frustration over the inaction of

the administration, calling the 45-year delay a clear sign of bureaucratic neglect. Kondal said that with the reconstitution of the Petition Committee, there is renewed hope that the families may finally get justice without the need for a court case.

If the committee fails to address their concerns, the petitioners have expressed their intention to approach the Himachal Pradesh High Court.

Deputy Commissioner, Mandi, Apoory Devgan said that "this matter is under my consideration. These affected families could not produce any old official order or any other official records regarding allocation of government land to them, which is a major hurdle to give ownership of government land to them. However in 2018, then DC Mandi raised this issue with the state government. I am trying to find a solution for it at the earliest, but without proper official record, it is not possible to transfer forest land in the name of these affected families. We are trying to find old official records to resolve this issue."

Sukhu launches 'Har Din Sehat' drive in Shimla

SHIMLA, DECEMBER 31

Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu launched the 'Har Din Sehat' campaign here today. He said this health awareness programme aims to promote a culture of health consciousness and disease prevention among the people of Himachal.

Under this campaign, students of the Indira Gandhi Medical College, Shimla, and Sister Nivedita Nursing College will organise health talks at various places to raise awareness about adopting a healthy lifestyle. These activities will be conducted in different wards and OPDs of

IGMC-Shimla as well as public places under the Shimla MC. The CM said the campaign's objective is to prevent diseases, increasing awareness about government health facilities and encouraging effective utilisation of health services and schemes. -TNS

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ਇਸ ਪਿੰਡ ਦੀ ਐਕੂਆਇਰ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾਣ ਵਾਲੀ ਕਿਸਮ ਚਾਹੀ/ਨਹਿਰੀ/ਬਰਾਨੀ/ਗ਼ੈਰ-ਮੁਮਕਿਨ ਨਾਲਾ/ਨਹਿਰ ਆਬਾਦੀ, ਵਪਾਰਕ ਅਤੇ 2-2 ਕਿੱਲੇ ਅੰਦਰ ਰਕਬਾ ਹੈ। ਕਿਸਮ ਗ਼ੈਰ ਨਾਲਾ/ਨਹਿਰ ਦੇ ਕੋਈ ਰੇਟ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਨਹੀਂ ਹੋਏ ਹਨ। ਇਸ ਕਿਸਮ ਨੂੰ ਚਾਹੀ ਦੇ ਰੇਟ 12500/- ਪ੍ਰਤੀ ਮਰਲਾ ਦਿੱਤਾ ਜਾਣਾ ਯੋਗ ਹੈ। ਇਸ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ ਨਾਲ ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੀ ਕਿਸਮ ਨੂੰ ਤਹਿਸੀਲਦਾਰ ਮੁਕੋਰੀਆਂ ਪਾਸੋਂ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਹੋਏ ਰੇਟਾਂ ਮੁਤਾਬਕ ਕਿਸਮਵਾਰ ਰੇਟ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਜਾਣੇ ਯੋਗ ਹਨ। ਜਿਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਦਾ ਵੇਰਵਾ ਹੇਠ ਲਿੱਖੇ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ ਹੈ:

ਲੜੀ ਨੰ.	ਕਿਸਮ ਰਕਬਾ	ਰੇਟ ਪ੍ਰਤੀ ਮਰਲਾ	ਰੇਟ ਪ੍ਰਤੀ ਏਕੜ
1	(ਦੇ ਕਿੱਲੇ ਤੋਂ ਬਾਹਰ)/ਚਾਹੀ/ਨਹਿਰੀ/ਬਰਾਨੀ	12500/-	20,00000/-
2	ਆਬਾਦੀ	84100/-	
3	ਵਪਾਰਕ	305673/-	*******
4	ਗ਼ੈਰ ਨਾਲਾ ⁄ਨਹਿਰ	12500/-	20,00000/-
5	ਮੇਨ ਰੋਡ ਤੋਂ 2-2 ਕਿੱਲੇ ਅੰਦਰ	34712/-	5553900/-

ਪਿੰਡ ਮੰਜ ਕਾਲਾ

ਇਸ ਪਿੰਡ ਦੀ ਐਕੂਆਇਰ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾਣ ਵਾਲੀ ਜ਼ਮੀਨ ਦੀ ਕਿਸਮ ਚਾਹੀ /ਨਹਿਰੀ / ਗੈਰਮੂ.ਰਸਤਾ /ਬਰਾਨੀ ਕਿਸਮ ਹੈ। ਇਸ ਪਿੰਡ ਨੂੰ ਗੈਰ. ਰਸਤੇ ਨੂੰ ਕੁਲੈਕਟਰ ਰੇਟ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਜਾਣੇ ਯੋਗ ਹਨ। ਕਿਸਮ ਚਾਹੀ/ਨਹਿਰੀ/ਬਰਾਨੀ ਨੂੰ ਛਾਂਟ/ਕੁਲੈਕਟਰ ਰੇਟ ਪਾਪਤ ਹੋਏ ਹਨ, ਜੋ ਕਿ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਜਾਣੇ ਯੋਗ ਹਨ:

ಅವು ೧.	विभम वर्षत्र	ਰਟ ਪ੍ਰਤੀ ਸਰਲਾ	वट प्राप्टव
1	(ਦੋ ਕਿੱਲੇ ਤੋਂ ਬਾਹਰ) ਚਾਹੀ/ਨਹਿਰੀ/ਬਰਾਨੀ	19804/-	3168640/-
2	ਗੈਰ ਰਸਤਾ	17356	2777000/-
3	ਆਬਾਦੀ	105140	
4	ਵਪਾਰਕ	291735	

ਇਸ ਪਿੰਡ ਦੀ ਐਕਆਇਰ ਕੀਤੇ ਜਾਣ ਵਾਲੀ ਜ਼ਮੀਨ ਦੀ ਕਿਸਮ ਚਾਹੀ/ਗੈਰ ਆਬਾਦੀ, ਗੈਰ ਨਾਲਾ ਅਤੇ ਵਰਕਸ਼ਾਪ/ਵਪਾਰਕ ਕਿਸਮ ਹੈ। ਇਸ ਲਈ ਇਸ ਪਿੰਡ ਨੇ ਹੇਠ ਲਿਖੇ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ ਕਿਸਮਵਾਰ ਕਲੈਕਟਰ ਰੇਟ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਜਾਣੇ ਯੋਗ ਹਨ।

ਲੜੀ ਨੰ.	ਕਿਸਮ ਰਕਬਾ	ਰੇਟ ਪ੍ਰਤੀ ਮਰਲਾ	ਰੇਟ ਪ੍ਰਤੀ ਏਕੜ
1	(ਦੋ ਕਿੱਲੇ ਤੋਂ ਬਾਹਰ) ਚਾਹੀ∕ਨਹਿਰੀ	9467/-	1514700/-
2	ਆਬਾਦੀ	37800/-	
3	ਵਪਾਰਕ	50500/-	
4	ਗੈਰ. ਨਾਲਾ	9467/-	1514700/-
5	ਮੇਨ ਰੋਡ ਤੋਂ 2-2 ਕਿੱਲੇ ਅੰਦਰ	36816/-	5890500/-

ਇਸ ਪਿੰਡ ਵਿਚ ਮੁਤਾਬਕ ਰਿਪੋਰਟ ਤਹਿਸੀਲਦਾਰ ਮੁਕੇਰੀਆਂ ਰਕਬਾ ਮੇਨ ਰੋਡ ਤੋਂ 2-2 ਕਿੱਲੇ ਦੇ ਵਿਚ ਆਉਂਦਾ ਹੈ। 2-2 ਕਿੱਲੇ ਵਿਚ ਆਉਂਦੇ ਰਕਬੇ ਨੂੰ 5890500 ਪ੍ਰਤੀ ਏਕੜ ਦਿੱਤਾ ਜਾਣਾ ਯੋਗ ਹੈ।

ਪਿੰਡ ਮਸਾਹਿਬਪਰ

ਇਸ ਪਿੰਡ ਵਿਚ ਐਕੁਆਇਰ ਕੀਤੇ ਜਾਣ ਵਾਲੇ ਰਕਬੇ ਦੀ ਕਿਸਮ ਚਾਹੀ/ਬਰਾਨੀ ਅਤੇ ਗੈਰ ਮੁਮਕਿਨ ਰਸਤਾ ਹੈ। ਇਸ

ਲੜੀ ਨੰ.	ਕਿਸਮ ਰਕਬਾ	ਰੇਟ ਪ੍ਰਤੀ ਮਰਲਾ	ਰੇਟ ਪ੍ਰਤੀ ਏਕੜ
1	(ਦੋ ਕਿੱਲੇ ਤੋਂ ਬਾਹਰ) ਚਾਹੀ /ਨਹਿਰੀ /ਬਰਾਨੀ	30359/-	4857440/-
2	ਗੈਰ ਰਸਤਾ	10519/-	1683000/-
3	2-2 ਕਿੱਲੇ ਅੰਦਰ ਰਕਬਾ ਮੇਨ ਰੋਡ ਤੋਂ	36816/-	5890500/-
4	ਵਪਾਰਕ	54700/-	
5	ਆਬਾਦੀ	48231/-	

ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਪਿੰਡਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਜਾਣ ਵਾਲੇ ਕਿਸਮਵਾਰ ਰੇਟਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਐਕਟ ਦੀ ਧਾਰਾ 20F ਦੀ ਧਾਰਾ 1989 (4) ਮੁਤਾਬਕ ਮਾਲਕਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਜਾਣੂ ਕਰਵਾਉਣ ਲਈ ਦੋ ਅਖ਼ਬਾਰਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਪਬਲਿਸ਼ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾਣਾ ਹੈ। ਇਸ ਲਈ ਇਹ ਨੋਟਿਸ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਪਿੰਡਾਂ ਦੇ ਜ਼ਮੀਨ ਮਾਲਕਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਸਚਿਤ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ। ਮਿਤੀ:

> ਸਹੀ/- ਉਪ ਮੰਡਲ ਮੈਜਿਸਟਰੇਟ-ਕਮ-ਲੈਂਡ ਐਕੁਜ਼ੀਸ਼ਨ ਕੁਲੈਕਟਰ, ਰੇਲਵੇ, ਮੁਕੇਰੀਆਂ।



CM Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu at a review meeting of Animal Husbandry Department in Shimla on Tuesday.

Construction of 6 Rajiv Gandhi schools begins

SHIMLA, DECEMBER 31

The construction of six Rajiv Gandhi day-boarding schools has commenced in Nagrota Bagwan, Jwalamukhi, Fatehpur, Palampur and Jai Singhpur Assembly constituencies in Kangra district, along with the Bhoranj constituency in Hamirpur district.

A government spokesperson said that these schools were being constructed in a phased manner. Each school would have a capacity to accommodate at least 1,000 students from pre-primary to class XII.

"The schools will be equipped with modern facilities such as high-tech smart classrooms, sports grounds, indoor stadiums, swimming pools, etc. These schools will significantly improve the standard of government educational institutions," said Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu. He said the state government had notified 100 government high schools, 200 government senior secondary schools, 48 government colleges and two government Sanskrit colleges as 'Centres of Excellence'. - TNS

SHIMLA, DECEMBER 31 Governor Shiv Pratap Shuk-

161.52 crore for setting up six new milk-chilling Pradesh would witness more plants and milk-processing progress in all spheres. of-the-art fully automated milk-processing plant is being set up at Dagwar in Kangra district with 1.5 expandable up to 3 lakh This plant will become

coming year would bring abundance of good health and happiness in the lives of the people and Himachal Chief Minister Sukhvinder

peace and prosperity to pelling Himachal to new opment," he said. - TNS

extend New Year wishes to people

Governor, CM

producers.

la has extended his wishes to the people of the state on the New Year's Eve. The Governor expressed hope that the

Singh Sukhu also extended his warm greetings and best wishes to the people of Himachal for the New Year. "I hope that the New Year would bring happiness, everyone's lives while proheights of progress and devel-

or Development Works Closing Date & Time : 10.01.2025 (5.00 pm) : https://eproc.punjab.gov.in

DPR/Pb/40355

Punjab Water Resources Management Development Corporation Lining Division No. 7, Bathinda, invites online bids for Short Term E-Tenders on work order basis Micro Irrigation System under KOTLA BRANCH PART-II CADWM PROJECT for various number of outle Closing Date & Time: 13/01/2025 upto 09:00 AM

For details logon to:- www.eproc.punjab.gov.in the above website only.

Sd/- Divisional Engineer,

NORTHERN RAILWAY Open Tender Notice no. ETrU-T-05-2024-25-02

Open tender through E-tendering is invited by Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/TRD, Northern Railway, Ambala from the willing Contractors for following work on railway website www.ireps.gov.in upto 15:00 hrs. on the date of closing shown against the work

S. N.	Open Tender No.	Name of work	Date of Closing/ Opening	Approx. Cost	Earnest Money	Completion period	Validity period	Cost of tender form
1	T-05- 2024-	Design, supply, erection, testing & commissioning of 50Hz, single phase 25 KV AC OHE in c/w Electrification of Punjab Logistic Infrastructure Limited at Ahemadgarh station on LDH-JHL section.	22.01.2025	₹ 3,62,00,093.41/-	₹ 3,31,000/-	04 Months	60 days	NIL for downloading from IREPS portal, Rs. 10,000/- For obtaining hard copy from Sr. DEE/TRD/ UMB office.

Tenderer(s) are required to upload scanned copies of all related eligibility documents including PAN/GSTIN as per Tenderer(s) should have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate to participate in e-Tendering of Works Tenders.

All Taxes i.e. GST, BOCWW, Income tax etc. are applicable as per extant rule. In the work, the condition of Similar Nature Work is applicable and is as, "Design, supply, erection, testing &

commissioning of 50 Hz single phase 25 KV AC OHE" For detail, please log on IREPS website www.ireps.gov.in. No. ETrU-T-05-2024-25-02 Dated 31.12.2024 3987/2024

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

CHAPTER - 1 **CHANDIGARH ADMINISTRATION: JAIL DEPARTMENT** E-TENDER NOTICE The e-tender is, hereby, invited from the manufacturers/suppliers for the supply of Medicines &

Surgical items for dispensary of Model Jail Chandigarh amounting to Rs. 10.00 Lacs approximately to the Model Jail, Chandigarh through e-tender process.

1	Downloading of e-tender document	Start Date: 02.01.2025 at 10:00 a.m. End Date: 27.01.2025 at 03:00 p.m.
II	Clarification, if any	Start Date: 02.01.2025 at 10:00 a.m. End Date: 27.01.2025 at 03:00 p.m.
111	Date of submission of e-tender	Start Date: 02.01.2025 at 10:00 a.m. End Date: 27.01.2025 at 03:00 p.m.
IV	Physical submission of EMD amounting to Rs. 30,000/-	Start Date: 02.01.2025 at 10:00 a.m. End Date: 27.01.2025 at 03:00 p.m.
٧	Opening of Technical Bid (online)	30.01.2025 at 12:00 Noon
VI	Opening of Price Bid of only of eligible technically qualified	To be announced after evaluating

 The Bid Document can be downloaded from the website http://etenders.chd.nic./nicgep. 2. All other terms and conditions, instructions to bidder regarding e-tendering process etc. may kindly be seen from the detailed Notice Inviting Tender (DNIT) available on the above noted website of Chandigarh Administration. The undersigned reserves the rights to reject any or

bidder to be determined by Purchase Committee.

all tenders without assigning any reasons.

Sd/- Superintendent, Model Jail, Chandigarh.

technical bid.

The Tribune

ESTABLISHED IN 1881

Looking ahead

Farmers, Centre must find common ground

S the dawn of 2025 brings hopes for change, Punjab's farmers must reflect on their strategies and open the door for constructive dialogue with the Centre. The year gone by, marked by relentless protests and the steadfast hunger strike of Jagjit Singh Dallewal for over a month now, has highlighted the farmers' demands — some just and deserving, but others simply blackmail. However, the frequent bandhs and road and rail blocks have also significantly disrupted public life, testing the patience of the very people whose support they depend upon. The peasants' commitment to their cause is undeniable. The success of the latest Punjab bandh on Monday underscored solidarity within the state, but at a steep cost - railway cancellations, road closures and economic disruptions. Such methods risk alienating broader public sympathy. Prolonged stalemates only exacerbate frustrations on all sides, delaying solutions that could address genuine grievances.

The Centre, too, must adopt a more empathetic approach, shedding bureaucratic inertia. Invitations for talks should not be viewed as concessions but as avenues to achieve mutually beneficial outcomes. The Supreme Court's involvement has spotlighted the urgency of resolving these issues, but judicial mandates alone cannot heal the growing rift between the state and its agrarian backbone.

Punjab's dominant agrarian economy forms the backbone of the nation's food security. However, its farmers remain mired in challenges like diminishing returns, rising debts and an overdependence on wheat and paddy as also land degradation and desertification. Collaborations with policy experts, agricultural economists and political stakeholders could pave the way for innovative solutions, whether in agro-industrial integration or financial safeguards for the peasants. The new year must signal an end to hardened positions. By embracing dialogue and pragmatism, Punjab's cultivators and the Centre can together lay the groundwork for lasting agricultural prosperity and societal harmony.

Children in peril

Kapurthala trafficking case a wake-up call

country aspiring to become 'Viksit' (developed) by 2047 has a job to do right now — protect its children from traffickers and middlemen. Otherwise, these kids — the nation's future — would be left psychologically scarred for life. A horrifying case has been reported from Punjab's Kapurthala district. Eleven children, now rescued by the police, were made to work on a potato farm as enslaved labourers. Two agents who allegedly trafficked the children from Bihar are also accused of sexually abusing one of them and pushing her into prostitution.

The incident has come to light days after a businessman running a packaging company in Maharashtra's Thane district was booked for allegedly making children work as labourers. Unfortunately, kids remain vulnerable to exploitation even though there are myriad laws aimed at ensuring deterrence. The Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, prohibits the employment of children below 14 years in any occupation; those in the age group of 14 to 18 years cannot be forced to work in hazardous occupations where their health and safety are at risk. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act have strict provisions as well, but enforcement leaves a lot to be desired.

Timely response to complaints about child labour holds the key to curbing this scourge. Synergy between Central and state governments — and among the states too — is another prerequisite. In many cases, it's poverty that drives parents to take desperate measures. They force their kids into labour to support the family; this not only disrupts the children's studies but also exposes them to the big, bad world. Targeted welfare schemes must go hand in hand with efforts to strengthen the justice delivery system. Let no one's childhood be ruined, for that would be a great loss to the entire nation.

ON THIS DAY...50 YEARS AGO

The Tribune.

CHANDIGARH, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 1975

Books for the masses

WHETHER the public can be made book-minded by the sale of books through post offices and petrol pumps, as suggested by Information and Broadcasting Minister Inder Kumar Gujral, is doubtful. The proposition is as unreal as the question whether sophistication can be injected among those living in sub-human and slum conditions. Why the minister has petrol pumps in mind for the promotion of books is difficult to say. Maybe, he wants to compensate them for the reduced oil demand after the recent price hikes. The reading habit is something that grows with literacy and the purchasing power of people. It is a habit that partly comes naturally and is partly acquired. In the prevailing struggle for survival, the educated Indian is hardly left with any money to satisfy his thirst for knowledge. Whatever little urge lingers is finished because of the high prices of books. So the simple remedy for promoting the reading habit lies in the production of cheap and good quality books. This is a challenge to publishers and the government as well as to the creative authors in English, Hindi and regional languages. Apart from the lack of initiative and honesty, there has been much lopsided thinking in the book publishing field at all levels. The publisher's main interest is to make a quick buck, often at the cost of authors and readers. The government, on its part, has made matters worse by haphazard bans on the import of books. True, foreign exchange is precious and has to be saved for crude and all that. But then the inadequacies of our books programme cannot be taken care of by slogan-mongering.

Time ripe for bold economic reforms

The 2025-26 Budget should be used as a launch pad for special initiatives



SUSHMA RAMACHANDRAN SENIOR FINANCIAL JOURNALIST

HE new year has arrived with many challenges on the economic horizon. The one that looms most darkly is the geopolitical turmoil prevailing in several parts of the world. Another one is the inauguration of Donald Trump as US President and the multifarious concerns over policy changes by the global economic superpower. These will have a broad international impact, but there will also be outcomes for India.

On the domestic front, all eyes will be on the new head of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Sanjay Malhotra, and his approach to inflation and growth. And as the Modi government prepares to present the second Budget of its third term, it will have to deepen reforms in order to slash the regulatory cholesterol that is clogging the route to higher economic growth.

The way forward must be viewed in the sombre context of the passing of several luminaries critically involved in the country's economic development. The most significant loss has been that of the architect of the 1991 economic reforms, former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. The late Osamu Suzuki, long-time chairman of Japan's Suzuki Motor Company, took a bet on the over-regulated Indian economy in the mid-1980s. The gamble not only paid off for the company, but it also became the catalyst for the development of an automobile industry which now accounts for over 40 per cent of the manufacturing sector.

For the domestic industry,

55



the biggest blow came in October when corporate titan Ratan Tata breathed his last. The unlikely, soft-spoken successor to the flamboyant JRD ended up galvanising and expanding the house of Tatas to make it the largest conglomerate in the country.

These giants in the economic and business arena contributed to the current status of India as the fastest-growing major economy in the world. Yet, as one looks ahead, there are worries that this pace may not be maintained in 2025. From 8.2 per cent growth in 2023-24, the current fiscal's figure is likely to be lower. The second quarter — July to September — recorded a seven-month low of 4.5 per cent. Though there are expectations of a pickup in the third quarter along with reports of reviving consumption, the economy continues to face headwinds. The most worrying of these is the prospect of an escalation in geopolitical tensions. The Ukraine-Russia war proceeds relentlessly and the downing of an Azerbaijani airline indicates that these hostilities will continue to have ramifi-

cations for the rest of the world. As for the Gaza conflict, it has not had widespread economic

The pace of cutting down regulations and procedures at the Central and state levels must be stepped up.

repercussions so far, but has the potential to create even more havoc. So far, the hostilities have extended to Lebanon and Iran. though in a limited manner. In case the latter becomes embroiled in a wider way, it would have a direct impact on energy prices and availability. Attacks on Iran's oil and gas production or storage facilities are bound to have a bearing on international prices. Currently, oil markets are in the grip of bearish trends and prices of the benchmark Brent crude are hovering around \$72-74 per barrel. But this situation could alter dramatically if the conflict widens to neighbouring West Asian countries that are oil producers. This could lead to a spike in oil prices, which would, in turn, have an immediate fallout here in terms of pushing up the oil import bill, while simultaneously raising inflationary pressures.

Another concern is the impact of tariff barriers sought to be imposed by the incoming Trump administration. Though the actual contours of his new trade policy are yet to be unveiled, he has declared that reciprocity would be a major element in formulating tariff proposals. While his greatest ire has been reserved for China and there have even been threats of levying up to 60 per cent import duties, he has also been sharply critical of India's high tariff barriers. For this country, it means that the creeping increase in import duties over the past two years may have to be halted or even reversed as otherwise Indian goods may end up being uncompetitive in the lucrative American market. The worries

on this score are justified as Trump has described India as "a very big abuser of tariffs" and stressed that such taxes will invite reciprocity.

On the plus side, the easing of protectionist tendencies is only for the good. On the negative side, it is not yet known whether the new Trump administration will enable Indian goods to have an edge in the US market vis-avis other countries like China. Much will depend on the final shape of trade policies formulated by the new administration.

As for raising the pace of growth, the role of the new RBI chief will be critical. His approach to the entire 'inflation versus growth' conundrum is eagerly awaited in the run-up to the next monetary policy committee meeting. A lot will depend on whether inflation continues to moderate in the coming months. It has already cooled down to 5.48 per cent in November along with a dip in food inflation, raising hopes of a rate cut that would give an impetus to investment and growth.

The next big policy push of the government will be outlined in the upcoming Budget. This might be a coalition government, but major constituents like the Telugu Desam Party have been in favour of reforms. It would thus be the right time to step up the pace of cutting down regulations and procedures at the Central and state levels. The complexity of rules related to labour and land use are major hurdles for foreign and domestic investors. A new wave of reforms in this direction is needed to give a push to investments in all segments of the economy.

The 2025-26 Budget should be used as a launch pad for such measures. These should be viewed in the backdrop of the growing recognition that without bold policies, it will not be possible to raise growth to the level of 8-9 per cent. One can only hope the new year ushers in such fresh initiatives.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

My motto is — trade, not aid. Aid is a crutch. Trade builds pride. — PV Narasimha Rao

"

India Gate missing its heartbeat

AIRVICE MARSHAL MANMOHAN BAHADUR (RETD)

HE 1971 war marked the coming of age of the Indian military after the fiasco of 1962 and a significant improvement witnessed during the 1965 war. The Amar Jawan Jyoti was installed at India Gate in New Delhi. It served as a reminder of the deeds of brave Indians. There was live telecast of the Prime Minister paying homage to them every year before the Republic Day parade. India Gate became synonymous with the Amar Jawan and became a part of folk culture. The lay citizen came to pay respects and thereafter took in the unique festive environment that had evolved after the commissioning of the 'eternal flame'.

Children played merrily, balloon sellers peddled their wares and tourists clicked pictures with India Gate and its 'eternal flame' in the background. Movies were shot there, and the patriotic feelings of citizens found a unique way of expression. Remember the popular song "Apni toh paathshala, masti ki paathshala..." from the cult movie 'Rang De Basanti', in which a group of youngsters drive around the India Gate, saluting the 'eternal flame'?

The commemoration of the 1971 war now happens at the National War Memorial (NWM), as the 'eternal flame' of India Gate has been moved and merged with the 'eternal flame' at the NWM. The war memorial is all-encompassing and does justice to Indians who made the supreme sacrifice in every war since Independence. Their names are etched in its hallowed portals, and one cannot but get emotional seeing their near and dear ones in tears on spotting their names — what memories and thoughts must be passing through their minds.

On this Vijay Diwas, too, wreaths were laid at the war memorial by representatives of a grateful nation. The same would have happened at India Gate also if the 'eternal flame' was present there. An added advantage would have been that the common man, too, would have got a chance to pay his respects due to its easy accessibility to one and all — something missing in the NWM due to its location. Be that as it may, the solemnity of Vijay Diwas is not reduced one bit by the site of the commemorative place — it is just that India Gate had a 'common man feel'.

So, as the nation commemorated the iconic happening on December 16, this writer, who was a Class XI student 53 years ago, could not but remember being glued to All India Radio and listening to Prime Minister Indira Gandhi inform the world, "Dacca is the free capital of a free country." Little did she realise that India Gate's 'eternal flame' would imbue that World War I monument with a nationalistic cult status — and a unique 'India Gate feeling' that, alas, is now missing.

Insult to ex-PM's memory

Refer to 'Disgraceful row'; the editorial is a rebuke to the politicians who are insulting the memory of Dr Manmohan Singh. The conduct of the ruling party and the Opposition is equally disgraceful. The seeds of economic reforms were sown by him and everyone is reaping the benefits today. Politicians from Punjab are crying foul over the lack of proper honour given to Dr Singh during his last journey, but none of them could find a parliamentary seat for him in the state (he served as a member of the Rajya Sabha from Assam and Rajasthan). He wasn't an accidental Prime Minister but an accidental politician and it is difficult for any academician of his merit to withstand political turbulence.

ONKAR SINGH PARMAR, LUDHIANA

Dr Singh's visionary leadership

Appropos of The man who made the middle class affluent'; Dr Manmohan Singh's tenure was a transformative period for India's middle class. His economic policies not only tripled their average income but also elevated their standard of living, aspirations and global competitiveness. This was a golden era for professionals and the managerial class as opportunities abounded and they flourished. As India continues to grapple with economic challenges, the legacy of Dr Singh serves as a reminder of the power of visionary leadership and the importance of policies that prioritise growth with inclusivity. For the middle class, his decade of leadership remains a landmark.

GAURAV BADHWAR, ROHTAK

Magnet to draw top talent

With reference to 'H-1B visa issue'; both President-elect Trump and Elon Musk had weighed in for quality immigration by declaring their support for H-1B visas that would let in talented programmers and other white-collar workers Musk had even described H1-B as a magnet to draw top talented engineers. Immigration was among the most contentious issues in the presidential election, and Trump's strong stance against illegal migrants may have helped him emerge victorious. The H-1B visa regime is meant to provide avenues for companies to hire skilled labour. The government must not sit by amid the rising hostility towards Indians.

SK SINGH, BY MAIL

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Leaders must address issues Refer to 'Trump's threats portend turbulence';

while his approach seeks to redefine trade policies in favour of the US, it risks undermining global stability and economic partnerships. His aggressiverhetoric could alienate allies, isolating the US on the global stage. India must tread cautiously, balancing its interests while navigating the changing dynamics. Trump's unpredictable policies might offer opportunities for growth in bilateral trade but could also lead to unforeseen challenges. The world must strive for collaboration, not unilateralism, to address pressing issues like economic inequality and geopolitical tensions. A focus on dialogue, mutual respect and sustainable develop-

ment is the need of the hour. ANUPAM MEHNDIRATTA, CHANDIGARH

Trump is disrupting trade norms

Apropos of 'Trump's threats portend turbulence'; Donald Trump's use of tariffs to pressure allies like Canada, Denmark and Panama is troubling. Such actions reflect an expansionist policy aimed at achieving geopolitical objectives through economic coercion rather than diplomacy. Threatening Canada over trade disputes, Panama for its strategic importance and Denmark for rejecting the sale of Greenland undermines trust among long-standing allies and disrupts global trade norms. This approach risks destabilising international relations, prioritising dominance over cooperation. It is crucial for global institutions to counter these aggressive tactics and uphold the principles of mutual respect and fairness.

BALBIR SINGH KAKKAR, JALANDHAR

World needs leaders like Carter

Refer to 'Jimmy focussed more on doing good than on doing well'; Jimmy Carter was committed to the principles of peace, diplomacy and international cooperation. He worked to eradicate disease, forge peace, advance civil and human rights, promote free and fair elections and shelter the homeless. He saved and changed the lives of people all across the globe. Leaders like Carter alone can save the world from the humanitarian catastrophe triggered by the Gaza conflict and the Ukraine-Russia war. No solution seems to be in the offing as global leaders no longer believe in resolving conflicts through diplomacy. His death is a huge loss to humanity at large.

ROSHAN LAL GOEL, LADWA

Letters to the Editor, typed in double space, should not exceed the 200-word limit. These should be cogently written and can be sent by e-mail to: Letters@tribunemail.com

Self-punishment politics in Tamil Nadu



NIRUPAMA SUBRAMANIAN

S a form of political practice, the threat or act of self-punishment has a long and dubious tradition in Tamil Nadu. No political leader has self-immolated or threatened to do so yet, but there was this minister in Jayalalithaa's Cabinet, a karate champion, who tied himself to a cross and reportedly had nails hammered into his palm for a few minutes to demonstrate his loyalty to her. Others in her Cabinet are known to have carried pots of burning coals. A woman minister, wearing a skirt of neem leaves, rolled on the ground in the precincts of a temple.

Entertaining as all this is, it's not clear if such acts ever impressed the intended audience.

So, when K Annamalai, president of the Tamil Nadu unit of the BJP decided to whip himself in protest against the sexual assault of a student at Anna University, sure enough, social media audiences brought out the popcorn (salted only) for the meme fest that followed. But no words of sympathy or fellow feeling came from the

Nadu BJP is. One rival within suggested that it would have been more appropriate for Annamalai to have been given a few lashes by party leaders in Delhi. No words of support whatsoever came from the high command.

As it seeks to make a dent in Tamil Nadu's Dravidian armour, the BJP has tried various ploys. The charge of atheism and "anti-Sanatan" tops the list. But, as the last parliamentary elections showed, that failed to win a single seat for the BJP, with the DMK sweeping up all 39 seats. Even Annamalai, despite the build-up he got from national television channels, could not win the Coimbatore seat.

For sure, the party got its highest ever vote share of 11.38 per cent. But this was also the first time it had contested more than half the seats in the state, in alliance with the Pattali Makkal Katchi (PMK) and a breakaway group of the AIADMK.

With the PMK leadership's father-son troubles coming to the fore in a very public way, the future of this caste-based party's alliance with Hindutva is uncertain.

Simply put, nothing, including the search for the right alliance partners, has worked for the BJP in Tamil Nadu.

The AIADMK has held back steadfastly. Elections are still months away — due only in May 2026. But the divided house that the Tamil word is that AIADMK boss



PLOY: K Annamalai whipped himself in protest against the sexual assault of a student. ANI

Edappadi Palaniswami has already made a preliminary approach to actor Vijay, the latest entrant on the block and a megastar with a fan following that does not have to be paid to attend public rallies. Some within the BJP believe that it was a mistake not to weaponise the 'rettai illai' or two leaves symbol against the AIADMK after it was frozen in 2017 in the wake of post-Jayalalithaa splits in the party.

Some wonder why the threat or promise of the famed BJP 'washing machine' has not yet been deployed in this state.

Trying to turn the Anna University rape case into a political storm, Kolkata style, was a gamble.

The alleged rape of a stu-

Chennai took place on December 24 when the woman was in the company of a male college mate in a secluded corner of the campus. The alleged rapist was known to the local police as a "history-sheeter", but he seems to have had a free pass into the prestigious institution. He threatened the male companion into leaving the place and proceeded to assault the woman, videoed his crime and threatened her with blackmail.

dent of Anna University in

If the security measures at the university were found wanting, the police did not cover themselves in glory either. The First Information Report was uploaded and made accessible to the public, with the victim's name,

her address and contact details. The manner in which the FIR is worded questions the training of the police personnel at the all-woman police station where the woman made the complaint.

Shocking as this is, let's face it. Tamil Nadu is not a state with a high incidence of crimes against women. And, the BJP which rules states Uttarakhand and Haryana where the incidence of such crimes far outstrips the national rate, can hardly point a finger.

Even BJP insiders here say they have no answer when they are asked why the PM has not visited Manipur yet.

The surfacing of a photograph of the accused with Udhayanidhi Stalin, the newly anointed Deputy Chief Minister and secondgeneration DMK first family dynast, may have given the BJP and the AIADMK confidence that they had enough ammunition to mount a direct attack.

But the Madras High Court's swift order on petitions by AIADMK party members demanding that the case be transferred to the Central Bureau of Investigation doused the attempt to turn this into a political conflagration for the DMK.

The high court directed the setting up of a Special Investigation Team to probe the crime and bring it to prosecution, and the police to pay Rs 25 lakh to the victim for making her identity in Tamil Nadu.

either the compensation

public. It asked Anna University to bear the full cost of her further education at the institute.

While Annamalai charged that the state had become unsafe for women and announced that he was taking up the case as the 'brother' of the woman who had been assaulted, the woman herself was confident enough to take her complaint to the police the very next day, with a university official by her side.

For Annamalai, back from a sabbatical at Oxford University where he went after the BJP's anticlimactic Lok Sabha elections, his failure to whip Tamil Nadu into a frenzy with his self-flagellation is hardly the comeback he might have hoped for. In any case, whipping oneself is no act of Hindu penance in Tamil Nadu, as some admirers up north have sought to describe it. Lord Muruga's bhakts will hang from hooks, skewer their bodies and cheeks with spears and walk over burning coals. But whipping one's own body is known only as a practice among itinerant alms-seekers.

Annamalai, who also announced that he would observe a fast for 48 days and eschew footwear until the DMK was defeated, may be better off eating proper meals and putting his sandals back on for the BJP's rocky journey ahead

Why a better understanding of First Amendment is needed

Whipping oneself is

no act of Hindu

penance in Tamil

Nadu, as some

admirers up north

have sought to

describe it.



AJAY K MEHRA POLITICAL SCIENTIST

RIME MINISTER Narendra Modi opened the discussion in the Lok Sabha on 75 years of the Constitution on December 14, 2024, by criticising India's first PM Jawaharlal Nehru for bringing the first constitutional amendment even before the first Lok Sabha was elected.

Modi said: "This country didn't have an elected government from 1947 to 1952. A temporary system, a selected government was in place. Elections were not held. An interim government was in place until the elections. Before 1952, the Rajya Sabha was also not formed. There were no elections in states as well."

The Prime Minister is partially right. The first amendment of the Constitution was passed by the provisional parliament before the first General Election was held.

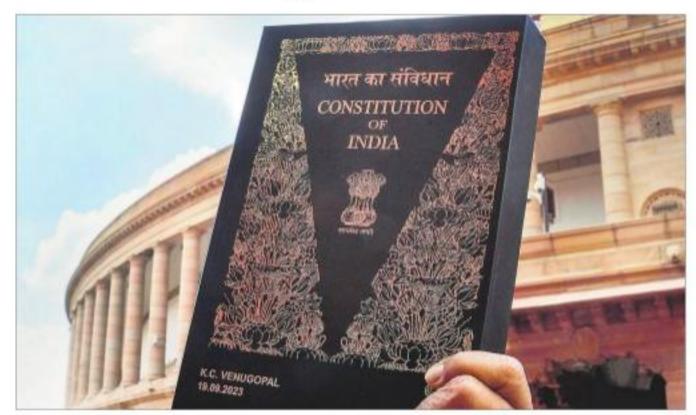
Was it Nehru's precipitous move to bring this amendment in May-June 1951, or was it a rational decision taken by the Cabinet? Law Minister BR Ambedkar was still in the Cabinet and his ministry must have drafted it in consultation with him.

The government in place from 1947-52 faced constitutional roadblocks as the judiciary intervened in some crucial cases. The cases included those relating to making special provisions for protective discrimination [Article 15(3)], freedom of speech [Article 19(1a)] in Romesh Thappar vs the State of Madras case on May 26, 1950, and carrying forward several of its initiatives relating to the abolition of the zamindari system (Article 31) in order to fulfil its promises to the people of India.

Thus, the "right to hold, acquire or dispose of the property" was a crucial one that the government thought would have to be balanced with prominence to the community rights of social and economic equality.

The substance of the First Amendment to the Indian Constitution dealt with the fundamental right to property enshrined in Articles 19(1)(f) and 31. The Bill was introduced on May 12, 1951. and enacted on June 18, 1951, even before the elections for the first Lok Sabha were held (on April 17, 1952) and the Rajya Sabha was constituted.

On September 10, 1949. amendments to draft Arti-



BEFORE FIRST ELECTION: The Bill for the First Amendment to the Indian Constitution was introduced on May 12, 1951, and enacted a month later. PTI

The Nehru-led

government, in

place from 1947-52,

faced constitutional

roadblocks as the

judiciary intervened

in crucial cases.

cle 24 (Article 31) were discussed. Nehru moved the amendment stating that the possession of private property was given the protection of 'authority of law'. Any 'compulsory' acquisition of property for public purposes must have 'compensation' - a specified amount — or the principles on which and the manner in which the compensation is to be determined have to be built into the law authorising acquisition. He was absolutely clear that "there is no question of any expropriation without compensation so far as this Constitution is concerned".

These conditions would be applied both to the Union and state governments. He did not see any conflict between "individual right to property and the community's interest in that property or the community's right".

He explained that the amendment he moved reassures acquisition and maintenance of private property, but he appeared to foresee the need for acquisition of small or big chunks of private property for community purposes.

In his view, the rights, the interests and welfare of the community override the individual rights.

He asserted the authority of Parliament, not of the judiciary, to fix the principles to be laid down for a fair payment of compensation: "Parliament fixes

itself or the principles governing that compensation and they should not be challenged except for one reason, where it is thought that there has been a gross abuse of the law, where in fact there has been a fraud on the Constitution. Naturally the judiciary comes in to see that any Parliament representing the entire community of the nation will certainly not commit a fraud on its own Constitution and will be very much concerned with doing justice to the individual as well as the community." (CAD, Book No. 4, Vol. IX, p. 1195).

Thus, a large part of the letter and substance of Nehru's draft for Article 24 was incorporated in the Constitution as Article 31, guaranteeing private property to the citizens of India.

Speaking strongly for abolishing the zamindari system, Nehru stated: "It has been ... the old policy of the ... Congress ... that the zamindari institution in India ... must be abolished. So far as we are concerned

... shall give effect to that pledge naturally completely ... and no change is going to come in our way Within limits no judge and no Supreme Court can make itself a third chamber. No Supreme Court and no judiciary can stand in Judgement over the sovereign

3

6

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Shaka Samvat

■ Posh Parvishte

■ Posh Shaka

■ Hijari

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

9

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CALENDAR

JANUARY 1, 2025, WEDNESDAY

Shukla Paksha Tithi 2, up to 2.25 am

Uttrashadha Nakshatra up to 11.46 pm

■ Vyagatha Yoga up to 5.06 pm

■ Moon in Capricorn sign

will of the Parliament representing the will of the entire community." (p. 1197).

Thus, during the course of the presentation of the amendment that led to the finalisation of Article 31, the stage was set for the First Amendment. Both the content and substance of the arguments presented by Nehru made it clear that community interest within the boundaries of 'fair compensation' will prevail.

Another important reason for the First Amendment was to 'qualify' the freedom of speech and expression as the executive orders for banning the Cross Roads, that Romesh Thappar edited, were shot down. As the Nehru government had taken exception to the Organiser, a publication of the RSS, that had been publishing articles against Pakistan that were communal in nature and were affecting the community relations in the country, it came under pressure regarding the Cross Roads, too.

The First Amendment 'public order', added 'incitement to an offence' and 'friendly relations with foreign states' to the already existing grounds of restriction in Article 19(2).

Since the Organiser came under its ambit, the Prime Minister's ire is understandable. Indeed, we need a better understanding of the First Amendment.

QUICK CROSSWORD

1 Intense (5)

8 Suffer humiliation (4,4) 9 Tremble (5)

10 Tactfully ascertain views of (5,3)

11 Well-defined (5)

12 Special aptitude (3) 16 Happy (6)

17 An excursion (6)

18 Dried grass as

fodder (3) 23 Solidarity of purpose (5)

24 Biased (3-5)

25 Express readiness (5) 26 Flatter grossly (6,2) 27 Proceed aimlessly (5)

2 Understood what

was meant (6,2)

3 Become established (4,4) 4 Good name (6)

5 River of Paris (5) 6 More important (5)

7 Author of Ode to a

Nightingale (5) 12 Tree of olive family (3)

13 To trifle (3) 14 Represent (5,3) 15 Intrinsically (2,6)

21 Small-minded (5)

22 Split by force (5)

19 Wide street (6) 20 Uncertainty (5)

Yesterday's solution

Across: 1 Carbon copy, 6 Nail, 10 Guilt, 11 Anomalous, 12 Meantime, 13 Deter, 15 Average, 17 Devious, 19 Related, 21 Parlour, 22 Hoard, 24 Situated, 27 Negotiate, 28 Trial, 29 Even, 30 In one piece.

Down: 1 Cogs, 2 Raise hell, 3 Often, 4 Chalice, 5 Proceed, 7 Adopt, 8 Last resort, 9 Hand over, 14 Fair chance, 16 Antidote, 18 On one side, 20 Disdain, 21 Pattern, 23 Argue, 25 Act up, 26 Flue.

SU DO KU 2 5 6 4 4 6 2 8 8 5 2 3 5

MEDIUM

FORECAST WEDNESDAY 17:33 HRS SUMRISE: 07:18 HRS 6 2 8 4 1 9 CITY MAX MIN 3 5 6 Chandigarh 14 10 9 5 3 4 2 7 8 New Delhi 17 08 6 1 4 3 9 8 7 Amritsar 15 10 6 4 5 15 Bathinda 06 1 2 3 Jalandhar 15 10 2 5 6 1 Ludhiana 15 08 4 7 6 8 3 2 17 07 Bhiwani 16 07 3 5 1 7 9 4 Hisar 18 07 Sirsa Dharamsala 05 20 Manali 12 02 15 Shimla 06 Srinagar 06 -02 20 06 0 -13Kargil 01 -10Leh Dehradun 23 10 17 06 Mussoorie TEMPERATURE IN °C.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

I, Usha Gupta W/o Subhash Gupta R/o Krishna Nagar, Gali No. 9, Khanna, changed my name to Sunita Gupta. (CL24089049)

I, Ashok Kumar Dhalwal S/o Nafe Singh Dhalwal R/o House No. 1870, Ground Floor, Co-Operative Housing Society, Near PCA Stadium, Sector 64, SAS Nagar, Mohali (Pb.) 160062, have changed my name from Ashok Dhalwal to Ashok Kumar Dhalwal. All concerned please note. (CL24089051)

I, Lata Rani Dhalwal W/o Ashok Kumar Dhalwal R/o House No. 1870, Ground Floor, Co-Operative Housing Society, Near PCA Stadium, Sector 64, SAS Nagar, Mohali (Pb.) 160062, have changed my name from Lata Rani to Lata Rani Dhalwal. All concerned please note. (CL24089053)

I, Mewa Singh S/o Zora Singh R/o Bathinda, have changed my name to Mewa Singh Sidhu. (CL24089105)

I, Mohammad Salik S/o Dara Khan R/o Delhi Gate Malerkotla, Distt. Malerkotla (Punjab), have changed my name to Mohammad Salik Khan. (CL24089106)

I, Jasbir Singh S/o Maya Chand R/o House No. 1615, FF, Sector 26, Panchkula, Tehsil & Distt. Panchkula, Haryana 134116 have changed my name from Amarjit Singh to Jasbir Singh. All concerned please note. (CL24089059)

I, Ram Singh Son of Ram Kishan Residence of # 1822, Village Burail, Sector 45, Chandigarh presently residing at # 7813, Block-H, Aerocity, Mohali, Punjab declare that I had disowned to my son Manoj Kumar in Hindustan Times and in Dainik Bhaskar publication on 29th August, 2016. Now, they are under my control and they have full rights in my moveable/ immoveable property. (CL24089103)

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COURT NOTICES

(CL24089072)

(U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC) In the Court of

Sh. Sachin Yadav Addl. Civil Judge (Sr. Divn.). Chandigarh

Union Bank of India

Naresh Bhandari recovery of 49,102.57/-CNR No.

CHCH02-003493-2021 Next Date: 21.01.2025 Publication issued to:

Naresh Bhandari Father: Ashok Bhandari, H.No: 79/A, Dashmesh Nagar, Naya Gaon, Village Karoran, Tehsil Kharar, District SAS Nagar,

In above titled case, the defendant(s)/respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that defendant(s)/ respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 21.01.2025 at 10:00 a.m.

For details logon to https://highcourtchd.gov.in/? trs=district notice&district= chandigarh

Dated, this day of 20.12.2024 Sd/- Sachin Yadav Addl. Civil Judge (Sr. Divn.), CL24089045 Chandigarh. (U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)

In the Court of Sh. Ankit Airi Civil Judge Jr. Div., Chandigarh Pooja Mehta @ Pooja

> Miglani General Public

CNR No. CHCH02-001711-2024 Next Date: - 11.02.2025

Publication issued to: General Public

In above titled case, the defendant(s)/respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that defendant(s)/ respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel

on 11.02.2025 at 10:00 a.m. For details logon to https://highcourtchd.gov.in/? trs=district notice&district=

chandigarh Dated, this day of 05.12.2024.

Civil Judge Jr. Div., Chandigarh CL24089061 In the High Court of

Punjab and Haryana at Chandigarh Civil Writ Jurisdiction CWP No. 25828 of 2022 State Bank of India ...Petitioner(s)

Permanent Lok Adalat Fatehgarh Sahib and Ors. ...Respondent(s)

Notice to: 3. M/s Katco Food Test and Research, Kashmir Complex, G.T. Road Doraha, District Ludhiana through its authorized signatory.

Whereas a petition under Article 226/227 of the Constitution of India, wherein you have been joined as respondent and it is proved to the satisfaction of this Court that the above named respondent cannot be served in the ordinary manner.

Notice is hereby issued against him for 17.01.2025 (Actual date) and that if you wish to urge anything in reply to the petition, you may appear in this Court on that date, and file your statement 3 days before that day either in person or through any Advocate duly

Take notice that in default of your appearance on the date aforementioned the case shall be heard and decided in your absence. Given under my hand and the seal of the court this 21st day of November 2024.

Sd/- Superintendent (Writs) for Assistant Registrar (Writs)



CLASSIFIEDS Katra bandh enters Day 7 as deadlock persists over proposed ropeway plan

JAMMU, DECEMBER 31

Katra, the base camp for Mata Vaishno Devi pilgrimage, witnessed a shutdown for the seventh consecutive day on Tuesday as the locals continued their protest against the proposed ropeway project in the Trikuta Hills of Reasi district.

The Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Sangharsh Samiti had called for the shutdown on Wednesday, announcing that all activities in Katra would remain suspended. The bandh has disrupted normal life in one of the busiest towns in the country, as thousands of pilgrims arrive in Katra daily to pay obeisance at the cave shrine.

Health Department officials on Tuesday conducted a medical check-up of the youths observing indefinite fast to press for the release of several persons detained during the protests in Katra. One of the fasting youths has been hospitalised. Several protesters, includ-

ing Samiti leaders Bhupinder Singh and Sohan Chand,



were detained and removed from the protest site during Wednesday's march.

Congress' J&K chief Tariq Hameed Karra criticised the L-G-led administration, accusing it of creating an issue due to its "negative attitude". "It seems there is anarchy in entire J&K as the administration is not ready to listen to the genuine

demands of the people," said Karra. "We do not know who is benefitting from the ropeway project. It is being pursued by the administration despite widespread resistance. The administration should engage with genuine stakeholders," he said.

Karra targeted the BJP stating that the "party had repeatedly betrayed the people of J&K and would never support the protesters". Former minister Jugal Kishore, speaking to the media, urged the administration to resolve the issue immediately. "The resolution of this issue should not be delayed, as it has already been a week since so many people have been protesting and shutting down their businesses," he said.

The BJP which is in opposition in J&K, has so far refrained from openly supporting the protesters. However, Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary of the ruling National Conference recently visited Katra and expressed solidarity with the protesting locals. Although BJP MLA Baldev

Raj Sharma from the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi constituency has voiced support for the protesters, the J&K unit of the BJP has emphasised the economic losses faced by locals due to the strike. J&K BJP chief spokesper-

son Sunil Sethi urged negotiations between the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Sangharsh Samiti and the administration. "A mutual agreement should be reached. The L-G administration has already formed a committee on the issue, and the Samiti should select representatives for talks. In a civilised society, dialogue is the only way to resolve issues. The bandh is also affecting the pilgrimage and the livelihoods of locals," Sethi said.

On Kashmir visit. **NorthernCommand** chief Lt Gen Kumar reviews security OUR CORRESPONDENT

SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 31

Army's Northern Commander Lt General MV Suchindra Kumar visited Kashmir to review the operational preparedness of the troops in the Valley. "Lt Gen MV Suchindra Kumar visited Chinar Corps to review the operational preparedness of the formation," the Northern Command of the

Compliments troops for anti-terror ops

Army posted on its X handle. Lt Gen Kumar complimented the troops for successful anti-terrorist operations in the valley. "The Army Commander complimented all ranks for successful conduct of counter terrorist operations and exhorted all ranks to maintain professionalism in conduct of operations," it added.

The visit of top Army officer comes after the recent success of anti-militancy operations in the Valley. Top Hizbul commander Faroog Ahmed Bhat was among the five militants killed in an operation in Kulgam on December 19.



The police place an attachment notice on a property in Rajouri.

J&K cops attach assets of two terror handlers

OUR CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, DECEMBER 31

The Jammu and Kashmir Police have attached in Rajouri the properties of two absconding terror handlers currently operating from Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK), officials said on Tuesday.

The attachment was carried out in the presence of revenue authorities on Monday. The attached land, measur-

ing 7 kanals and 18 marlas, belongs to Ishtiaq Ahmed of

Bhattian village in Thanamandi tehsil, and Zahid Ali Khan of the same village, a police spokesperson said.

"These Pakistan-based terror handlers are accused of activities linked to supporting anti-national elements. The attachment of properties is part of ongoing efforts to dismantle the networks of Pakistan-based handlers and their associates operating in the region. The district police are committed to curbing anti-national activities in Rajouri," he added.

Statehood & dual control of power remain crucial issues for Omar govt ADIL AKHZER A recent dispute arose over

SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 31 Though the 2024 Assembly

elections in Jammu and Kashmir fulfilled the long-standing demand for an elected government, the absence of statehood and the dual control of powers remain significant issues for the new government.

In September, J&K saw its first Assembly elections since the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019. Following the results in October, the National Conference (NC) emerged as the single-largest party, while the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) secured the highest number of seats in the Jammu region. Consequently, it was the NC that formed the government in the Union Territory (UT).

However, two months after the formation of the government, Valley-based legislators are expressing concerns. They acknowledge the significance of the 2024 elections but are now calling on the Central government to promptly restore statehood and end the dual power centres within the UT.

Kulgam MLA and CPM leader MY Tarigami told The Tribune that commitments



made by the Union Government must be honoured. "What we are suggesting is that statehood,

LOOKING AHEAD

NEW YEAR SPECIAL

which is the minimum demand of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, must be restored," he stated. Tarigami added that the current situation leaves the Assembly disempowered, with both legislators and the government unclear on their powers. "At a time when expectations are high, the government and legislators are seen as not doing what they are expected

to," he noted.

Ever since the government was formed, the absence of clearly defined business rules continues to create tensions between the Raj Bhavan and Omar government. Even as the Omar Abdullah government heads many crucial departments in the present setup, most of them are also headed by IAS officers, which

are controlled by Raj Bhavan.

J&K administration, which excluded December 5 (the birth anniversary of NC founder Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah) and July 13 (Martyrs' Day in the Valley). Prof Noor Baba, based in Sri-

the 2025 holiday calendar for

nagar, observed that despite the long-awaited elections, the ruling government has failed to make significant progress in the two months since its formation. "The reason is mainly the UT setup and the ambiguity in the existing power system," he said, warning that this ambiguity could lead to frustration among the people if their issues are not addressed. "People voted in large numbers thinking their issues would be resolved," he added.

A South Kashmir MLA said everyone is hoping statehood would be restored sooner. "It is something the Union Government should immediately do. J&K is a sensitive state and two power centres are not going to benefit anyone," he said. As the new government grapples with these issues, calls for statehood restoration and the end of dual control continue to grow.

FROM PAGE 1

MEA promises to provide assistance to Kerala nurse...

In 2018, Priya was sentenced to death by a trial court. Her family has since been fighting for her release. They approached the Supreme Court too, but their appeal was rejected in 2023

With the President turning down the appeal for clemency on December 30, her release depends on securing the forgiveness of Mahdi's family and its tribal leaders. Yemeni media stated that "Priya killed Mahdi with the help of another person and chopped his body into pieces before dumping it into a water tank in her house". She was arrested while attempting to flee

Yemen in 2018.

Priya's family and advocacy groups have launched campaigns to save her while her mother, Prema Kumari, is in Sanaa to negotiate with Mahdi's family to secure forgiveness through "blood money". As per the Yemen law, a death penalty can be nullified only if the victim's family agrees to pardon the

culprit, often in exchange for blood money. The negotiations to seek

pardon for Priya hit a roadblock in September this when Abdullah year Ameer, the Indian Embassy-appointed lawyer. raised a pre-negotiation fee of nearly Rs 17.12 lakh, which he later doubled to nearly Rs 34.24 lakh. A portion of the amount, raised by the 'Save Nimisha Priya International Action Council' through crowdfunding, was used to pay the first instalment of Rs 17.12 lakh, but a disagreement over the fund transparency has complicated the matter.

Sangh mindset: Kerala CM on Maha minister's 'mini Pakistan' remark

vile attack on Kerala and call upon all democratic and secular forces to unite against the Sangh Parivar's hateful propaganda," Vijayan said. Rane termed Kerala a

Pakistan" and claimed that "all terrorists vote for Gandhis", referring to the election victories of Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra from the Wayanad Lok Sabha seat. Facing sharp criticism

from opposition parties for

southern state".

Strongly

Rane's statement, AICC general secretary KC Venugopal on Monday demanded that Prime Minister Narendra Modi respond to the controversial remarks made by the Maharashtra minister. - PTI

his comments, the BJP min-

ister on Monday maintained

that Kerala was very much a

part of India, and that he was

"merely raising issues of

religious conversion of Hin-

dus and love jihad in the

condemning

Dallewalto acceptmedical... to the Punjab Government for

its "failure" to implement the court order to shift Dallewal to a hospital.

On December 28, the two top officers filed separate affidavits explaining their position on the issue. However, the Bench wasn't satisfied.

"We are not satisfied with the efforts of the state of Punjab regarding compliance with the orders dated December 20. Having regard to the assurance by the Advocate General, we are inclined to grant more time to take appropriate steps to comply with the directions. If the state of Punjab requires any assistance, we direct the Centre to give all requisite support to ensure compliance with our directions," it had said.

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newspaper. The paper does not endorse the same. Readers are requested to verify the contents on their own before acting there upon."

Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan during an event at Varkala in Thiruvananthapuram on Tuesday. PTI

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 31 The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) in a joint operation with the Drugs Control Directorate, West Bengal, seized spurious drugs worth

Rs 6.6 crore during a raid at

a firm in Kolkata and arrest-

ed the company's owner in connection with the case. The Union Health Ministry on Tuesday said anti-cancer, anti-diabetic and other drugs, suspected to be spurious, were seized from the firm — Care and Cure For You. "The drugs, labelled as being manufactured in various countries, including Ireland, Turkey, Bangladesh and the US, were

found without any supporting

documents to prove their legit-

imate importation into India,"

the ministry said.

The ministry added that the investigating team also discovered several packaging material, further raising concerns over the authenticity of the seized products.

"Investigation has led to the arrest of the accused, a woman identified as the proprietor of the wholesale firm, who was taken into custody by the Drugs Inspector of the CDSCO. East Zone. The accused was sent to 14-day judicial custody. Further investigation into the matter is ongoing," the ministry said in a statement.

A ministry official said, "Continuous raids are conducted based on tip-offs. This could be a part of a small nexus. In collaboration with state drug controllers, CDSCO undertook inspections of drug manufacturing facilities."

₹6.6 cr fake drugs Kharge targets BJP for 'atrocities' seized in Kolkata against Dalits in states ruled by it

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 31

Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge on Tuesday attacked Union Home Minister Amit Shah and the BJP over the alleged caste-based atrocities committed against Dalits and Adivasis in states ruled by the saffron party, namely

Haryana, Madhya Pradesh.

Odisha, Maharashtra and

Uttar Pradesh. "In Parliament, Home Minister Amit Shah insults Babasaheb Ambedkar and the same anti-marginalised mentality is being repeated in the BJP-ruled states," Kharge posted on X.

"It is well known that atrocities are being committed against Dalits, Adivasis, backward and minority



POOR BEARING BRUNT OF 'MANUWAAD'

It is well known that atrocities are being committed against Dalits, Adivasis, backward classes and minority communities under the anticonstitutional rule of the Modi government. Those who are poor and deprived are suffering the brunt of Manuwaad. Mallikarjun Kharge, congress CHIEF

communities under the anti-constitutional rule of the Modi government. Those who are poor and deprived are suffering the brunt of Manuwaad," said Kharge, who is the Leader of Opposition (LoP) in

Rajya Sabha. Kharge further cited recent incidents of caste-based atrocities, including the death of a Dalit youth in police custody in Madhya Pradesh's Dewas. He also

pointed out another incident from Odisha's Balasore. where an Adivasi woman was tied to a tree and beaten up.

Kharge further said, "A Dalit girl student from Haryana's Bhiwani was forced to end her life after being unable to pay her BA exam fees."

"In Maharashtra's Palghar, an Adivasi woman who was pregnant died after she had to travel 100 km in search of an ICU.

Three Dalit families in Uttar Pradesh's Muzaffarnagar were forced to migrate because of castebased attacks, while the police remained silent." Kharge said.

He further asserted that Congress will not allow the constitutional rights of 140 crore Indians to be "violated."

"Congress will continue to fight the anti-constitutional thinking of the BJP-RSS," Kharge added.

Right to property can't be brushed aside due to delay: Apex Court

SATYA PRAKASH TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 31

Holding that right to protect private property can't be brushed away merely due to delay, the Supreme Court has condoned a 21-year delay on the part of original land owners in a land acquisition case from Alwar in Rajasthan.

"While it is true that the courts have consistently held that undue delay in approaching the court can be a ground for refusing relief, the courts have also recognised that in exceptional cases, where the impugned action is patently illegal or affects fundamental rights, the delay must be condoned," a Bench of Justice JB Pardiwala and Justice Manoj Misra said.

The verdict would benefit farmers whose cases have been dismissed by high courts on account of delay in launching proceedings against the acquisition.

The Bench said, "The decisions of this court have consistently held that the right to property is enshrined in the Constitution and requires that procedural safeguards be followed to ensure fairness and non-arbitrariness in decisionmaking, especially in cases of acquisition by the state."

"Therefore, the delay in approaching the court, while a significant factor, cannot override the necessity to address illegalities and protect the right to property enshrined in Article 300-A," it said.

It dismissed the Urban Improvement Trust's appeals, challenging the Rajasthan High Court's verdict quashing acquisition of three plots of some farmers in July 1976, under the Rajasthan Urban Improvement Act, 1959, in 1977 ACQUISITION WAS **CHALLENGED IN 1998**

A notification for the acquisition of land was issued in 1977, while it was challenged by the landowners before the Rajasthan High Court in 1998. The HC quashed the acquisition proceedings in 2009.



Alwardistrict. A notification to this effect was issued in 1977.

The acquisition was challenged by the landowners before the Rajasthan HC in 1998 on the ground that the legal requirements under the RUI Act were not complied with and the possession of the land in question was never handed over to the state govemment. The High Court on October 29, 2009, quashed the acquisition proceedings.

Contending that the landowners participated in the acquisition proceedings and were aware of the notifications. the state government and the trust submitted that service of individual notices under Section 52 (2) was not necessary. They also argued that a delay of 21 years in challenging the acquisition proceedings rendered the landowners' petitions unsustainable.

The SC faulted the state govemment for delay in the payment of compensation, saying the prolonged delay amounted to a breach of Article 300-A of the Constitution, which guaranteed the right to property as a constitutional right.

Anti-incumbency key challenge as AAP eyes Delhi hat-trick in the money-laundering its image spoiled by the

UJWAL JALALI TRUBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 31

As Delhi goes to the polls in February 2025, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) faces an uphill task of repeating its spectacular performance of the last two elections.

The party's top leadership, including its supremo Arvind Kejriwal, is facing cases of corruption and money laundering, a charge always denied and termed as "political witch-hunt" by AAP leaders.

The upcoming 2025 Assembly poll is likely to witness a triangular contest, and a war of words has already started between the leaders of AAP. BJP and Congress.

Interestingly, AAP and Congress, which are part of the

3-yr-old still stuck

In one of the longest rescue

operations in Rajasthan,

efforts to pull out a three-

year-old girl from a 150-foot

deep borewell in Kotputli-

Behror district entered the

The girl, identified as

Chetna, fell into the

borewell on December 23

while playing in her father's

farm at Badiyali Dhani. Till

Monday, the rescue teams of

the NDRF and SDRF were

hopeful of completing the

operation and reaching the

girl, but layers of sedimen-

tary rock have compounded

"Digging eight feet of soil

is not a big deal. But we can-

not effect a blast if there is a

stone. Due to the hard rock,

we are facing difficulty in

drilling. The work has not

stopped for a minute since it

started," NDRF team in-

charge Yogesh Meena told

reporters on Tuesday. - PTI

the drilling work.

ninth day on Tuesday.

Nine days on,

in Raj borewell

JAIPUR, DECEMBER 31



In a major setback, AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal resigned as Delhi CM after his arrest. FLE PHOTO

opposition INDIA bloc at the Centre, are not only fighting the Vidhan Sabha elections separately, but fiercely attacking each other.

AAP had emerged victori-

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 31

A day after the successful

launch of PSLV-C60 and

India's first space docking

mission, Union Minister of

State for Science and Tech-

nology Dr Jitendra Singh on

Tuesday said Indian Space

Research Organisation's

(ISRO) SpaDex mission

used indigenous technology

and credited public-private

collaboration for the coun-

try's rapid advancements in

As part of the SpaDex mis-

sion, the ISRO will for the

first time study the growth

the space sector.

ous in two consecutive elections with emphatic victories - winning 67 of 70 seats in 2015 and 62 in 2020. In both these elections, the left-

over seats were secured by

of plants in space, which is

crucial for human space-

flighttravels. ISRO plans to

grow eight cowpea seeds in

a closed-box environment

with active thermal control.

The growth of the seeds will

be studied over a period of

"This is the first time that

an ISRO mission will carry

out a biological experiment.

The CROPS (Compact

Research Module for Orbital

Plant Studies) experiment

will see the germination of

seed and sustenance of a

plant. Space biology is a new

area of study that is emerg-

ing and India is taking a lead

five to seven days.

the BJP, while the Congress drew a blank.

Despite being in power for 10 years, the AAP will have to combat two major problems the anti-incumbency and

SpaDex mission used indigenous technology: Jitendra

Opposition over the alleged corruption cases against its party leadership.

To counter anti-incumbency in the forthcoming electhe AAP has announced a slew of welfare schemes for the people, if they are voted to power, while both the BJP and Congress are attacking AAP for the alleged excise policy scam and renovation of the CM's house at exorbitant prices.

The previous year too has been troublesome for the party. Just in the third month of the year, AAP faced a major challenge with the arrest of Arvind Kejriwal on March 22, hours after the Delhi High Court denied him protection against "coercive action" by the Enforcement Directorate

Indian astronauts into space.

Docking is a critical technolo-

gy in space operations,

enabling two spacecraft to

connect and work as one unit.

It facilitates crew transfers,

resupply missions and the

assembly of larger structures

like space stations.

case. AAP leaders Manish Sisodia, Sanjay Singh and Satyendra Jain (in a separate case) were already behind bars at the time. The ED claimed that Keiri-

wal had been intrinsically involved in the entire conspiracy and the proceeds of the crime to the tune of Rs 45 crore were used in the campaign for Goa Assembly poll. AAP called Kejriwal's arrest as BJP's attempt to thwart AAP supremo from

campaigning in the Lok Sabha polls. Nonetheless, the party's clean image of giving a corruption-free model to the Indian polity has been hit with their leaders' arrest. But, AAP kept moving forward with hope of their leaders early release.

each weighing approxi-

mately 220 kg. These two

satellites cost Rs 125 crore

each which is a very small

fraction of the similar mis-

sions undertaken by other

agencies like NASA. This

also confirmed our abilities

to go in for a cost-effective

ਪੰਜਾਬ ਮੰਡੀ ਬੋਰਡ

ਆਨਲਾਈਨ ਬੋਲੀਆਂ ਮੰਗਣ ਦਾ ਨੋਟਿਸ ਸ਼ਾਰਟ ਟੈਂਡਰ ਨੋਟਿਸ ਨੇ: 19 (2024) ਮਿਤੀ 31-12-2024

ਕਾਰਜਕਾਰੀ ਇੰਜੀਨੀਅਰ (ਸ), ਪੰਜਾਬ ਮੰਡੀ ਬੋਰਡ, ਸੰਗਰੂਰ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਜ਼ਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਸੰਗਰੂਰ ਅਧੀਨ REPAIR OF NTERN AL ROADS AT PURCHASE CENTRE UGRAHAN MC SUNAM DISTT. SANGRUR WORK CODESGR-2024-61 ਦੇ ਕੰਮ ਲਈ ਪੰਜਾਬ ਮੰਡੀ ਬੋਰਡ ਨਾਲ ਸ਼ਚੀਕ੍ਰਿਤ ਠੇਕੋਦਾਰਾਂ/ਏਜੰਸੀਆਂ ਅਤੇ ਸ਼ਾਇਟੀਆਂ ਤੋਂ ਟੈਂਡਰਾਂ ਦੀ ਮੰਗ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾਂਦੀ ਹੈ। ਠੈਕੋਦਾਰ ਏਜੰਸੀਆਂ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਕੰਮ ਨਾਲ ਸਬੰਧਤ ਇੰਨਲਿਸਟਮੈਂਟ ਪੇਸ਼ ਕਰਨੀ ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਹੋਵੇਗੀ। ਹੋਰ ਵੇਰਵੇਂ ਲਈ ਵੈੱਬਸਾਈਟ https://eproc.punjab.gov.in ਦਾ ਹਵਾਲਾ ਲਿਆ ਜਾਵੇ। ਸੇਕਰ ਕੋਈ ਸੇਂਧ ਹੋਵੇਗੀ ਤਾਂ ਸਿਰਫ ਵੈੱਬਸਾਈਟ 'ਤੇ ਜਾਰੀ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾਵੇਗੀ।

ਸਹੀ/- ਕਾਰਜਕਾਰੀ ਇੰਜੀਨੀਅਰ (ਸ)

DPR/Pb/40350

ਪੰਜਾਬ ਮੰਡੀ ਬੋਰਡ, ਸੰਗਰੂਰ।

TENDER/RFP FOR SUPPLY OF NEW TONERS. REFILLING & REPAIR OF TONERS **GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB**

Notice Referance No.15/2024

The Punjab Municipal Infrastructure Development Company under Deptt. of Local Government, Punjab invites proposals for supply of

GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB

The Department of Punjab Water Supply & Sewerage Board re-invites online bids for following work:-

TENDER REFERENCE NO. 52 OF 2024

Sr.	Name of Work	Closing	Opening
No.		Dt. & Time	Dt. & Time
1.	Prov. Tap Connections to consumers, Ext. Aug. of W/S & System at Nawanshahr Inst. of T/Well under (AMRUT 2.0)		at

For details logon to: https://eproc.punjab.gov.in

Sd/- E.E., PWSSD, HSP.



MoS Jitendra Singh

in it," Singh said. He said docking technology would be crucial for India's Mission Gaganyaan that would be India's first humanmanned space flight carrying

"When we look forward to Gaganyaan or talk about transferring humans from one spacecraft to another, mission, the PSLV-C60

this technology (docking technology) will enable us to do that. In the SpaDex rocket carried two satellites

He said India would take the space economy from \$8.4 billion to \$44 billion in the next seven years. "In the last few years, our space economy has been on the rise," the minister said. He said 2024 began by making news about space.

will be opened thereafter.

GST will be levied as per GST Act. 2017

No.

mission," Singh said.

new toners, Refilling & Repair of toners in specified format. Closing Date & Time: 13th Jan. 2025, 05:00 PM For details logon to: https://pmidc.punjab.gov.in/

Note:- Any corrigendum(s) to the Tender/RFP Notice shall be published on the above website only.

Sd/- General Manager (F&A) DPR/Pb/40369

GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB

RFP/Tender Reference No. 140-141/SE dt. 30/12/2024

The Department of Municipal Corporation, Patiala invites online bidding or the following:-SI. No. Item/Description of works Qty. (No. of works) Annual estimate for operation and

maintenance of tubewells Pre-Bid Meeting Date & Time 08.01.2025 at 11.00 a.m. Closing Date & Time upto 15.01.2025 at 17:00 hrs. Opening Date & Time 16.01.2025 at 11.00 a.m.

For details logon to www.eproc.punjab.gov.in Note: - Any corrigendum(s) to the Tender/RFP Notice shall be published on the above website only.

> Sd/- Superintending Engineer, Municipal Corporation, Patiala.

RAILWAY ELECTRIFICATION, AMBALA CANTT

offer up to the prescribed closing time & date. No tender will be accepted manually

Name of Work

Tender Notice No: RE/UMB/EL/Advt./09 Dated: 27.12.2024 Chief Project Director, Railway Electrification, Ambala Cantt. for & on behalf of the President of India invites OPEN TENDER on web site www.ireps.gov.in for the following works. The Tenderer may submit their original/revised

Tender No. & Tender Title period Cost Security (5 mi) (in ₹) (in months) (in ₹) 22.01.2025 Tender No.: RE-UMB-EL-G-FZR-01 1.88 Cr. 2,44,000 15.30 hrs. General Electrical work at Firozpur, Fazika

Taran Taran, Nawan Sahar, Nakodar and Moga stations of Firozpur division of Northern Railway Tender documents are available on Railway website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in and the same can be downloaded from there. Earnest Money deposit (EMD) and Tender document cost (TDC) in respect of e-tendering will only be accepted through net banking and payment gateway only. Details of bank account number and technical details have been downloaded from Railway website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in.

"Serving Customers with a Smile"

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE

Sr. No.	NAME OF BOARD/ CORP/AUTH.	NAME OF WORK/NOTICE/TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	(APPROX.) in Rupees	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD/CORPJAUTH	NODAL OFFICER/ CONTACT DETAILS/ E-MAIL
1	UHBVN	HIRING OF 1 NO. COMPLAINT VEHICLE (BOLERO JEEP OPEN FROM BACK SIDE TO BE USED BY THE SDO (OP) SUB DIVN., UHBVN, EAST AMBALA CITY	07.01.2025	6000/- PER VEHICLE	www.uhbvn.org.in NIT-50/2024	01712540151 xenopambalacity@uhbvn.org.in
2	UHBVN	A/MTC. OF NRB AT OP DIVN. GOHANA AT 132 KV S/STN. HVPNL COMPLEX MEHAM ROAD GOHANA	08.01.2025	308073/-	www.uhbvn.org.in 51/CCR/2024-25	9991480086 xenciviluhbwnrohtak@gmail.com
3	UHBVN	AMAINTENANCE OF NRB AT 132 KV S/STN (HVPNLASSET) CENTRAL STORE UHBVN ROHTAK FY 2024-25	08.01.2025	390322/-	www.uhbvm.org.in 53/car/2024-25	9991480086 xenciviluhbwnrohtak@gmail.com
4	UHBVN	AMTC. OF NON RESIDENTIAL BUILDING AT 33 KV S/STN. UHBVN KUNDLI, SONIPAT (2024-25)	08.01.2025	291147/-	www.uhbwn.org.in 52/car/2024-25	9991480086 xenciviluh bwnohtak@gmail.com

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA CORRIGENDUM

SR. No.	NAME OF BOARD/ CORP/ AUTH	OLD REFERENCE/NIT NO.	NATURE OF CORRIGENDUM	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD/ CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/ CONTACT DETAILS/ EMAIL
1.	HVPNL	122 PD&C DATED 11.10.2024	EXTENSION OF DUE DATE OF ONLINE BID SUBMISSION UP TO 31.12.2024 UP TO 17:00 HRS. & 27.12.2024	www.hvpn.org.in	01722583789 pro@hvpn.org.in
2.	HVPNL	HVPNL DATED 21.11.2024 THE CLOSING DATED OF TENDER WAS 26-12-2024 CHECKED FOR PARTICIPANTS BIDDER FOUND. SO CLOSING DATE IS HEREBY EXTENDED UPTO 07.01.2025, AT		www.hvpn.org.in	01722583789 pro@hvpn.org.in
3.	HVPNL	NIT NO 15/AMB/66 KV NANEOLA/2024-25 DATED 28.11.2024 TENDER ID 2024_HBC_414197_1	THE TENDER WAS TO BE OPENED ON DATED 26.12.2024. NOW BID SUBMISSION DATE EXTENDED TO 02.01.2025 UP TO 18:00 HRS DUE TO NON TURNING UP MINIMUM BIDDERS I.E. 3 NO. BIDDERS	www.hvpn.org.in	01722583789 pro@hvpn.org.in
4.	HVPNL	NIT NO 14/AMB/66 KV KALSANA/2024-25 DATED 27.11.2024 TENDER ID 2024_HBC_413861_1	THE TENDER WAS TO BE OPENED ON DATED 26.12.2024. NOW BID SUBMISSION DATE EXTENDED TO 02.01.2025 UP TO 18:00 HRS DUE TO NON TURNING UP MINIMUM BIDDERS I.E. 3 NO. BIDDERS	www.hvpn.org.in	01722583789 pro@hvpn.org.in
5.	HVPNL	NIT NO 06/AMB/220 KV TEPLA/2024-25 DATED 28.10.2024 TENDER ID 2024_HBC_407945_1	THE TENDER WAS TO BE OPENED ON DATED 27.12.2024. NOW BID SUBMISSION DATE EXTENDED TO 07.01.2025 UP TO 18:00 HRS DUE TO NON TURNING UP MINIMUM BIDDERS I.E. 3 NO. BIDDERS	www.hvpn.org.in	01722583789 pro@hvpn.org.in
6.	HVPNL	QDP NO 1466 NIT NO 1346 DATED 23.10.2024	THE LAST DATE OF ONLINE BID SUBMISSION IS EXTENDED UP TO 08.01.2025 UP TO 1700 HRS	www.hvpn.org.in	01722583789 pro@hvpn.org.in
7.	HVPNL	NIT NO 123 EPC-D-123/PD&C DATED 21.11.2024	CORRIGENDUM NO. 2/EXTENSION IN DATE OF ONLINE SUBMISSION OF BIDS UP TO 03.01.2025 UPTO 17:00 HRS & 27.12.2024 (FOR PUBLISHING)	www.hvpn.org.in	01722583789 pro@hvpn.org.in

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.etenders.hry.nic.in

PRDH-13/2025/140/31405/l/31/4

OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE

Completion Cost of tender Date of

provided for in the software (IREPS) to which prospective registered tenderers will have access at the time of tendering Note:- Technical and Financial Eligibility and all other terms & conditions may be seen in Tender document and Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer/RE/Ambala Cantt No. PR/51/24 (FA) For & on behalf of the President of India

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-Tendering

Open tenders through e-tendering are invited on & behalf of president of India by Sr. Divisional Engineer/Coordination, Northern Railway, Ambala from the willing contractors for following work upto 15.00 hrs. on the date of closing shown against the work and

Approx. Bid Period of Date of

Security Completion closing &

3999/2024

No.	Tallio St. Tiork	(Rs.)	(Rs.)		opening
1	Provision of RCC Box Channel for water supply at K.M. 21/16-17 adjoining Canal Bridge No. 19-A between Station JPS-UKN on JHL-HSR section by Box Pushing Technique under running track in the section of SSE/Works /SAG under ADEN/PTA.	1,56,56,788	2,28,300	06 Months	23.01.2025
2	Replacement of 1 deep tube well from Koti Tunnel to KLK, construction of Pump House, UG Water tank and laying of DI pipe for water demand at KLK particularly in summer in the section of SSE/W/KLK.		2,58,300	12 Months	23.01.2025
3	Improvement of Rain Water Harvesting System in RPSF 9th Battalion, JUDW under ADEN/JUDW.	5,61,005	11,200	04 Months	23.01.2025
4	Balance work of CTR(S) of 1.470TKm and TRR (S) of 12.234 TKm of the existing 52Kg 90UTS rails LWR laid on ST/Wooden/CST-9 Sleepers to M+7 density with 52Kg/60Kg rail on PSC sleeper with Elastic fastenings including increasing the ballast cushion with deep screening & recoupment of ballast from the existing standard in the section of ADEN/PTA under Sr.DEN-II.UMB	93,12,567	1,86,300	04 Months	23.01.2025
5	Provision of covered shed on existing LHS/Subway in lieu of L-xing no. 134- A/C & 139 on UMB - LDH section in the section of ADEN/RPJ under jurisdiction of Sr. DEN-IV/UMB.		2,36,600	04 Months	23.01.2025
6	Annual Repair, white washing and painting of staff quarters & service buildings alongwith hiring of skilled and unskilled labour under Zone RPAR (incl) to DLPC (incl) section for the 2024-25 in the section of SSE/Works/NLDM under ADEN/SIR.		2,00,000	06 Months	23.01.2025

Tenderers are required to upload scanned copies of all related eligibility documents including PAN/TIN/GST as per conditions. The required Bid Security will be acceptable On-line payment through Net Banking/or Payment Gateway payment only

 Tenderers should have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate to participate in e-Tendering of works tenders. 4. For detail, please log on IREPS website www.IREPS.gov.in

Open Tender Notice No.: NIT-53/UMB-2024-25 Dated: 31.12.2024

Serving Customers With A Smile

NAME OF

BOARD/ CORPJ

AUTH

HARYANA

SCHOOL

SHIKSHA

PARIYOJNA

PARISHAD

or www.etenders.hry.nic.in

OPENING

CLOSING DATE (TIME)

civilbranchssa3@gmail.com

PRDH/13/2025/40/31416/I/31/4

AMOUNT/

(APPROX.)

in Rupees

1028.46

LACS

C 946/24

ਸਹੀ/- ਜਨਰਲ ਮੈਨੇਜਰ, ਪੀ.ਆਰ.ਟੀ.ਸੀ., ਬਠਿੰਡਾ।

ਕਿਸੇ ਵੀ ਕੰਮ ਵਾਲੇ ਦਿਨ ਫੋਨ ਨੰ. 0164-2215417 'ਤੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰ ਸਕਦੇ ਹੈ।

NAME OF WORK/NOTICE/

DNIT FOR CONST OF 6

ACR AND 3 PCB LAB IN

GGSSS FARUKHNAGAR

DISTT. GURUGRAM + 9

WORKS

WEBSITE OF THE BOARD/CORP./AUTH.: www.hsspp.in

NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/E-MAIL: 9463239081

GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB

NOTE: - Corrigendum and addendum, if any, will be uploaded on pspcl website

TENDER/RFP REFERENCE No. 26 OF 2024, Dated: 31.12.2024 The Department of PUNJAB WATER SUPPLY & SEWERAGE BOARD

Sr. No.	Name of the Work	Amoun
	Prov. Tap Conn. to consumers, Ext. and Aug. of WS System at Nadala District Kapurthala for Distribution Network, Installation of Tubewell and Const. of 0.5 Lakh Gallon OHSR under AMRUT 2.0 Scheme, Part-I, Phase-I.	1200.64

23.01.2025 up to 03:00 p.m. Closing Date & Time https://eproc.punjab.gov.in For Details logon to Any corrigendum(s) to the Tender/RFP Notice shall be published

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Pb. W/S & Sew. Divn. No. 2, Jalandhar.

PUNJAB STATE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED

Telephones: 0172-2704040 E-mail: psidc@rediffmail.com

PSIDC Ltd. (A State Govt. Undertaking) invites applications for the post of Company Secretary on contract basis at a consolidated monthly remuneration of Rs. 50,000/- all inclusive.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in

Age, Qualification & Experience: The candidate should be below 50 years of age with the qualification of CS preferably with M.Com/ CA/LLB, 3 years experience as Company Secretary and should be able to conduct the Board meeting and handle matters relating to Company Law and other statutory requirements independently.

Candidates should submit their detailed resume with two latest photographs & copies of mark sheets & experience certificates to the Managing Director/PSIDC, Udyog Bhawan, 18, Himalaya Marg, Sector 17, Chandigarh within 20 days of date of publication/ this advertisement. PR/Pb/40342

Sd/- MANAGING DIRECTOR

PUNJAB AGRO INDUSTRIES CORPORATION LIMITED Plot No 2 A, Madhya Marg, Sector 28A

PUNJAB AGRO

Chandigarh, 160002 E-TENDER NOTICE FOR SALE OF UNSOLD GRADED WHEAT SEED/UNDERSIZE WHEAT SEED/SUNFLOWER SEED

Online E-tenders are invited through Two bid system from the interested parties for the sale of (i) graded wheat seed (ii) leftover undersize wheat after grading the seed and (iii) sunflower seed (PSH-2080) on "as it is where it is basis" at Seed Processing Plant, PAIC, Salem Tabri,

Tender will be received and opened as under:-Date of submission and receipt 01.01.2025 to 22.01.2025

up to 11:00 AM. Date of Opening of Technical Bid 22.01.2025 at 3:00 PM

Date of Opening of Financial Bid After evaluation of Technical Bid Rs.50,000/-Earnest Money Rs. 5000/-+ GST Tender fees

Tender notice, terms and conditions and detail of material lying are available at the government portal i.e. https://eproc.punjab.gov.in/. EMD and tender form fees are to be deposited through online mode only on the portal. Any further communication or corrigendum will be uploaded online only. For any query, email on jagdeep.singh28@punjab.gov.in or contact on Mobile No.85447-18919.

General Manager (AS) CIN U51219CH1966SGC002630



DISTRICT POLICE HEADQUARTERS KATHUA E-mail: sspkathua@jkpolice.gov.in Fax/Phone No. 01922-234010

LOOK OUT NOTICE

On 24.12.2024, one Abdul Hamid S/O Bashir Ahmed R/o Dodla Tehsi Basohli District Kathua lodged a written report at Police Station Basohli stating therein that on 21.12.2024 his son namely Mohd Irfan, age 18/19 years, wen to Basohli and did not returned home. The complainant tried his best to search his son but all in vain. On this, missing report vide DD No. 08 dated 24.12.2024 has been entered at Police Station Basohli

During the course of investigation, best efforts were made to locate missing individual, whereas he is still un-traced.

As such Description Roll/Photograph of said missing individual is being shared with the appeal that anybody having clue/information about his whereabouts may inform us accordingly. The informer will be rewarded suitably:-**DESCRIPTION ROLL PHOTOGRAPH**

Mohd Irfan

Abdul Hamid

Father Permanent Address Present Address Tehsil

- Village Dodla Village Dodla Police Station Basohli 18/19 years 5 feet 6 inch
- Age
 Height Complexion
- Built • Face Language known
- Medium Round
- Dogri/Hindi on following Contacts:-
- Any information related to the whereabouts of the subject may be communicated 01922-234010 (Phone/Fax)
- DPO Kathua dpokathua@jkpolice.gov.in
- 01922-234311 (Phone/Fax) PCR Kathua 4. Police Station Basohli 9103007514 Sd/- Sr. Superintendent of Police,

DIP/J-8785/24

कार्यालय पुलिस उपायुक्त, मुख्यालय, सोनीपत (सार्वजनिक सूचना)

सर्व साधारण जन को सूचित किया जाता है कि थाना खरखौदा के मुकदमा नं. 598/24 धारा 3(5), 287 BNS, 7-10-55 आवश्यक वस्तु अधिनियम व धारा ४ विस्फोटक पदार्थ अधिनियम एक्ट नं. 6 सन् 1908 थाना खरखौदा में जब्त 6 ड्रम पेट्रोल जो एक ड्रम देखने में 200 लीटर प्रतीत हो रहा है जिनमें औसतन 1200 लीटर पेट्रोल, 5 ड्रम डीजल जो औसतन 1000 लीटर डीजल और 14 ड्रम फूल थीनर जो औसतन 2800 लीटर थीनर 3 ड्रम आधा थीनर लगभग 300 लीटर थीनर बरामद किये गये थे। उपरोक्त बरामद तेल डीजल, पेट्रोल व थीनर के खुली नीलामी के आदेश माननीय अदालत श्री विक्रांत SDJM, खरखौदा के CIS NO CRM-319 of 2024 दिनांक 28.10.2024 द्वारा प्राप्त हो चुके हैं। इस नीलामी के संबंध में अगर कोई भाग लेना चाहता है तो दिनांक 02.01.2025 को जितेन्द्र पुत्र सतबीर निवासी गांव खुर्मपुर तहसील खरखौदा, जिला सोनीपत के प्लाट पर सुबह 10.00 AM पर खुली नीलामी की जाएगी।

नीलामी के संबंध में नीचे दिये गये मोबाइल नम्बर पर संपर्क कर सकते हैं।

सहायक पुलिस आयुक्त श्री जीत सिंह, थाना, खरखौदा 7419410517 प्रबंधक अफसर थाना खरखौदा 7419410536

PSI सौरव, थाना खरखौदा 8683819531 अपराध अभिलेख अधिकारी.

PRDH/1084/11/2971/2025/31408/31/4

कृते पुलिस उपायुक्त, मुख्यालय, सोनीपत

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LIMITED

Sr. No.	Name of the Work	Amou
	Prov. Tap Conn. to consumers, Ext. and Aug. of WS System at Nadala District Kapurthala for Distribution Network, Installation of Tubewell and Const. of 0.5 Lakh Gallon OHSR under AMRUT 2.0 Scheme, Part-I, Phase-I.	1200.6

on the above website only.

DPR/Pb/40354

GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB

TENDER/RFP REFERENCE No. 27 OF 2024, Dated: 31.12.2024 The Department of PUNJAB WATER SUPPLY & SEWERAGE BOARD e-invites online bids:

Sr. No.	Name of the Work	Amount
	Prov. Tap. Conn. to consumers, Ext. and Aug. of WS System at Begowal District Kapurthala for Distribution Network, Installation of Tubewell and Construction of 1.0 Lakh Gallon OHSR under AMRUT 2.0 Scheme, Part-I, Phase-I.	683.59

For Details logon to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in Any corrigendum(s) to the Tender/RFP Notice shall be published on the above website only.

16.01.2025 up to 03:00 p.m.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Pb. W/S & Sew. Divn. No. 2, Jalandhar. DPR/Pb/40353

PUNJAB STATET RANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED pstcl Regd. Office: PSEB, Head Office, The Mall, Patiala — 147001 Office of: Dy. CE/TS(D), 1st Floor, Shakti Sadan, Patiala — 147001.

Closing Date & Time

Tele: 0175-2207774, FAX: 0175-2207774, e-mail: se-trd@pstcl.org Corporate Identity Number: U40109PB2010SGC033814 (NOTICE INVITING TENDER) STQ-7080 Regarding Supply, Retrofitting, Testing and Commissioning of Line Differential Protection Relays on various 400 kV, 220 kV and 132 kV Transmission

Lines of PSTCL. EMD of Rs. 360000/- be submitted via e-payment gateway on

the e-tendering portal (GePNIC) or valid PEMD certificate for CE/TS PSTCL. Last Date & Time for downloading of tender 03.02.2025 up to 11:00 Hrs. Last Date & Time for receipt of tender 03.02.2025 up to 11:00 Hrs. Date & Time for opening of tender 05.02.2025 at 11:00 Hrs.

Detailed NIT/specification may be downloaded from PSTCL e-tendering website https://eproc.punjab.gov.in/nicgep/app. Corrigendum, if any, will not be published in newspapers. As such, the website may be visited regularly for updates. Dy. CE/TS (D), PSTCL, Patiala DPR/Pb/40341

SR. NO.	NAME OF BOARD CORP/ AUTH	OLD REFERENCE/ NIT NO.	NATURE OF CORRIGENDUM	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP/AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/ CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	UHBVN	NIT NO. 48/2024	THE RECEIPT AND OPENING OF TENDER ENQUIRY FOR HIRING OF BUILDING FOR PURPOSE FOR COMPLAINT CENTER AT MODEL TOWN FOR OFFICE OF SDO (OP) SUB DIVN, UHBIN, MODEL TOWN, AMBALA CITY - AGAINST NT NO. 48/2024 IS EXTENDED TO 08.01.2025	www.uhbvn.org.in	01712540151 xenopambalacky@ uhbvn.org.in
2	UHBVN	95/2024-25	AMTC. OF NRB AT OP DIVN. GOHANAAT 132KV SISTN. HVPNL COMPLEX MEHAM ROAD GOHANA	https://etenders.hry ric.in	9356063248 xencivliuhbynpanchku @gmail.com

Department of Water Resources, Punjab, Patiala Public Notice

It is hereby informed that Mr. Jashanpreet Singh Canal Patwari, son of Mr. Sukhdev Singh, resident of Ward No. 10 Aaam Khas Bagh, Sirhind, Distt. Fatehgarh Sahib has been continuously absent from his official duties since 29/04/2023. Despite multiple attempts to contact him through mobile and at his home address, Mr. Jashanpreet Singh has failed to provide any clarification regarding his absence.

A charge sheet has been issued to him by the Chief Engineer Headquarters, Water Resources Department, Punjab, and he has been given 15 days to present his defense. In case of no response or clarification within the specified time, it will be presumed that Mr. Jashanpreet singh Canal Patwari does not wish to resume his duties, and disciplinary action will be taken under Rule 8 of the Punjab Civil Services (Punishment and Appeal) Act, 1970, including suspension from government service.

This notice is issued for public information. Date: 23/12/2024

"Issued by:"

Sd/- Executive Engineer/Devigarh, Patiala Canal and Ground Water Division, Water Resources Department, Punjab, Patiala.

PRDH/13/2025/40/31414/V31/4

NORTHERN RAILWAY

(Construction Organization USBRL Project) PRESS NOTIFICATION

CRS INSPECTION OF NEW LINE FROM KATRA-REASI SECTION OF FIROZPUR DIVISION

Newly constructed line in Katra-Reasi section (16.501 Kms) of Firozpur Division will be opened with electric train operation shortly. High speed trial of the section by special train will be conducted by Commissioner of Railway Safety on 07.01.2025 after trolley inspection. Thereafter, new line train working will start soon in between Katra-Reasi Stations of USBRL Project.

General public is informed to stay away from Railway lines in above section. Crossing the track at any location is trespassing and is a punishable offence and liable for prosecution under Railway Act. No: DyCE/C/JAT/CRS Dated: 30.12.2024

Northern Railway Construction Organization 3986/2024

USBRL project SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE



E-mail: phedivisionawantipora@gmail.com CORRIGENDUM

Refer this office eNIT No. 33/PHA of 2024-25 Dated: 24.12.2024

endorsed vide this office No. AWP/PHE/3627-39 Dated: 24.12.2024 regarding the work "Providing of Tanker service to various habitations of Sub Division Tral of PHE Division Awantipora. (Under Tanker Service)", wherein the tank capacity of the tanker may be treated as 4000 liters minimum instead of 5000 liters.

> Sd/- Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Division Awantipora.

No. AWP/PHE/3720-30, Dated: 27.12.2024 GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER. JAL SHAKTI (PHE) DIVISION, AWANTIPORA Phone/Fax: 01933-247152

E-mail: phedivisionawantipora@gmail.com CORRIGENDUM

Refer this office eNIT No. 34/PHA of 2024-25 Dated: 26.12.2024

endorsed vide this office No. AWP/PHE/3685-97 Dated: 26.12.2024 regarding the work "Providing of Tanker service to various habitations of Sub Division Awantipora and Pampore of PHE Division Awantipora. (Under Tanker Service)", wherein the tank capacity of the tanker may be treated as 4000 liters minimum instead

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Division Awantipora. No. AWP/PHE/3710-19, Dated: 27.12.2024 DIPK-10169/24 WORLD

The Tribune

GURUGRAM WEDNESDAY 1 JANUARY 2025

Russian forces launch multiple missile, drone attacks on Kyiv

KYIV, DECEMBER 31

DPR/Pb/40359

Russia launched an aerial attack on Ukraine on Tuesday. striking the capital and other regions with multiple missiles and drones. Ukraine's air force reported a

ballistic missile threat at 3 am (0100 GMT), with at least two explosions heard in Kyiv minutes later. Another missile alert was issued at 8 am followed by at least one explosion in the city. Missile debris fell in the Damytskyi district of the capital with no reports of casualties or damage, the local administration said. Authorities in the northeast-

em Sumy region reported strikes near the city of Shostka, where the mayor, Mykola Noha, said 12 residential buildings had been damaged as well as two educational facilities. He



said some "social infrastructure objects" were destroyed. without providing detail.

The air force also reported missiles and drones targeting several other regions of Ukraine. In Moscow, the Russian Defence Ministry said that its forces successfully struck a Ukrainian air base and a gunpowderfactory.

Around half of Ukraine's energy infrastructure has been destroyed during the war, and rolling electricity blackouts are common and widespread.

Kyiv's Western allies have provided air defense systems to help Ukraine protect critical infrastructure, but Russia has sought to overwhelm its air defences with combined strikes involving large numbers of missiles and drones.

Russian attacks come as uncertainty looms over the course of the nearly three-year conflict. US President-elect Donald Trump, who takes office next month, has vowed to end the war and has thrown into doubt whether vital US military support for Kyiv will continue. On Monday, President Joe Biden announced that the United States will send an additional USD 2.5 billion in weapons to Ukraine as his administration works quickly to spend all the money it has available to help Kyiv. —AP

Ties advancing to greater heights: Xi in New Year message to Putin BEIJING, DECEMBER 31

China and Russia are moving forward hand in hand along the "right path" of non-alliance, non-confrontation and their relations have been advancing towards "higher levels," Chinese President Xi Jinping said

on Tuesday in his New Year

message to his Russian coun-

terpart Vladimir Putin.

"In the face of the accelerated transformation unseen in a century and a volatile international landscape, China and Russia always move forward hand in hand along the right path of non-alliance, non-confrontation, and not targeting any third party," Xi said in the message. — PTI

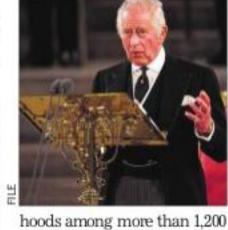
LONDON, DECEMBER 31 Mayor Sadiq Khan Community leaders, camto be knighted

paigners, academics and medics are among over 30 Indian-origin professionals to be recognised in King Charles' 2025 New Year Honours List released in London in time for New Year's Eve. Ranil Malcolm Jayawarde-

na, a Conservative member of Parliament of Sri Lankan and Indian heritage, has been conferred a knighthood for political and public service along with recently resigned England men's football team manager Gareth Southgate, for services to the game.

London Mayor Sadio Khan and former West Midlands Mayor Andy Street are also among those receiving knight-

Unsung Indian-origin 'heroes' feature in King Charles' New Year honours list



recipients on the 2025 honours list released on Monday night across all sectors, with particular commendation to role models in sport, healthcare, academia and voluntary service. "Every day, ordinary people

go out and do extraordinary things for their communities," UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer said. "They represent the very best of the UK and that core value of service which I put at the centre of everything this government does," he added. The list includes CBEs for

Satwant Kaur Deol for services to further education, Charles Pritam Singh Dhanowa OBE for services to Competition Law, and surgeon Professor Sneh Khemka for services to healthcare. science and innovation and technology. Leena Nair, Global CEO of Chanel, will also be receiving a CBE for services to the retail and consumer sector. - PTI

BUSINESS

USD S EURO € POUND € JPY Y YUAN CAD CS AUD AS

₹85.61 ₹88.25 ₹107.01 ₹0.54 ₹11.72 ₹59.45 ₹53.07 ₹62.94 ₹11.02

SGD SS HKD

109.12 0.100

COLD () SILVER () ₹76,795 ₹87,286

At ₹8.47 lakh cr, fiscal deficit hits 52.5% of FY25 target till Nov-end

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 31

The Centre's fiscal deficit at the end of the eighth month of financial year 2024-25 touched 52.5 per cent of the full-year target, government data showed on Tuesday.

In absolute terms, the fiscal deficit — the gap between the government's expenditure and revenue — was about Rs 8.47 lakh crore during the April-November period, according to the data released by the Controller General of Accounts (CGA).

In the Union Budget, the government projected to bring down the fiscal deficit to 4.9 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP) in the current 2024-25 financial year. The deficit was 5.6 per cent of the GDP in 2023-24. In absolute terms, the

government aims to contain the fiscal deficit at Rs



current fiscal. The revenue-expenditure

data of the Union government for the first eight months of 2024-25 showed that the net tax revenue was about Rs 14.43 lakh crore.

ment's total expenditure in the eight months through November stood at Rs 27.47 lakh crore or 56.9 per cent of the budget estimate. Of the total expenditure,

Rs 22.27 lakh crore was in

the revenue account and Rs 5.13 lakh crore in the capital account.

Out of the total revenue expenditure Rs 6,58,494 crore is on account of interest payment and Rs 2,79,211 crore is on account of major subsidies. A fiscal deficit is the differ-

ence between the total expenditure and revenue of the government. It is an indication of the total borrowing needed by the government. Icra Chief Economist Aditi Nayar said the anticipated miss in the capex target is

fall on account of disinvestment and taxes, as well as the impact of the recent supplementary demand for grants. Accordingly, Icra expects the fiscal deficit to mildly trail

expected to offset any short-

the 2024-25 estimate of Rs 16.1 lakh crore or 4.9 per cent of GDP. — PTI

WhatsApp Pay can now extend IT infra hit by cyber attack, UPI services to all Indian users says Thomas Cook India

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 31 National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has lifted

the limit from onboarding UPI users for the third-party app provider WhatsApp Pay with immediate effect. With this development, What-

sApp Pay can now extend UPI services to its entire user base in India, NPCI said in a statement. Previously, NPCI had permitted WhatsApp Pay to expand

its UPI user base in a phased

manner, it added. There was a cap of 100 million NPCI. With this notification, it said, NPCI is removing the limit restrictions on user onboarding on WhatsApp Pay. WhatsApp Pay will continue

users which has been lifted by

to comply with all existing UPI guidelines and circulars applicable to existing Third-Party Application Providers, it said. NPCI, an initiative of the RBI and the Indian Banks' Association, is an umbrella organisation for operating retail payments and settlement systems in India — PTI

Travel services provider

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 31

Thomas Cook (India) Ltd on Tuesday said there had been a cyber attack on its IT infrastructure, and it was working with security experts to support its investigation and take remedial action.

pany said,"...there has been an incident involving a cyber attack on our IT infrastructure." Without disclosing the exact timelines, it said, "Immediately upon becoming aware of the

In a regulatory filing, the com-

down immediately incident, we have taken the

Affected systems shut

necessary steps to investigate and respond to the incident, including shutting down affected systems." Thomas Cook added, "We are working with cyber security

experts to support our investigation and identify the extent of the issue and take remedial action as necessary" - PTI

BRIEFLY

HYDERABAD

Bengal beat Kerala 1-0 to win Santosh Trophy for 33rd time

West Bengal extended their supremacy in the National Football Championship for Santosh Trophy with a 1-0 win over Kerala in the summit showdown, claiming the title for an unprecedented 33rd time. Robi Hansda scored the only goal of the match in the added-time of the second half.

DUBAI Deepti jumps to fifth spot in ICC ODI rankings

India off-spinner Deepti Sharma climbed a spot to enter the top-5 in the latest ICC women's ODI ranking for bowlers following her matchwinning performances in the recently-concluded series against the West Indies at home. Deepti, who is fifth now, has 665 rating points and is marginally behind fourthplaced South Africa's Marizanne Kapp (677 points).

BRISBANE

Djokovic, Sabalenka win, Perricard aces Kyrgios test

Novak Djokovic and Aryana
Sabalenka began their season
with straight-set wins but Nick
Kyrgios' return to singles action
did not go according to his plans
at the Brisbane International.
Djokovic tamed local favourite
Rinky Hijikata 6-3 6-3. Earlier,
Giovanni Mpetshi Perricard fired
36 aces to beat Kyrgios 7-6(2) 67(4) 7-6(3). Women's world No. 1
Sabalenka sent an ominous
warning on her season debut
with a 6-4 6-0 demolition of
Renata Zarazua. AGENCIES

TODAY ON TV

BENGALVS GONASIKA SONYTEN 8:15PM

EPL BRENTFORD VS ARSENAL STAR SPORTS 11PM

With India's batting struggling, Shubman could return to side for do-or-die final Test

BORDER-GAVASKAR TROPHY

Standing at the crossroads of his Test career, skipper Rohit Sharma has certain choices to make in the best interests of the Indian team heading into the fifth and final Test against Australia.

With the series on the line after his team's 184-run drubbing in the Boxing Day Test, the Indian captain might have to field his six best batters at the Sydney Cricket Ground, which will pave the way for Shubman Gill's inclusion in the playing XI after being dropped for the previous game in Melbourne.

With 866 runs in Test cricket in 2024, Gill is second only to Yashasvi Jaiswal in the list of highest scorers among Indian batters in last one year, and one can't blame the youngster if he is feeling hard done by at being asked to sit out at MCG.

Rohit, though, informed that the team management explained to Gill the reasons behind his omission in Melbourne. He was dropped to ensure better balance in the playing XI with Washington Sundar's bowling being an additional advantage.

The question that arises now is how Rohit accommodates Gill in the playing XI for the Sydney game, which India need to win to not only retain the Border-Gavaskar Trophy but also keep alive their slim chances of qualifying for next year's World Test Championship (WTC) Final.

Washington did himself no harm by scoring a 50 and was involved in a crucial hundred-plus stand with centurion Nitish Kumar Reddy. And if his bowling was penetrative enough, he would have certainly bowled more overs.

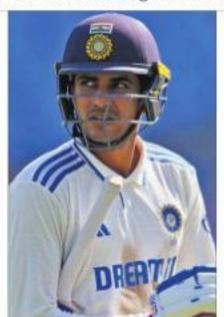
Finding balance



Skipper Rohit Sharma has scored just 31 runs in five innings; BELOW: Shubman Gill was dropped for the Melbourne Test to include all-rounder Washington Sundar. FILE

The SCG has traditionally been a track that assists spinners as the match progresses and hence either Washington or Tanush Kotian is certain to play alongside Ravindra Jadeja, unless the skipper develops sudden faith in Jaiswal's leg-breaks and decides to a play the specialist batter (Gill) and not the batting allrounder (Washington).

The Adelaide Test, played under lights with the pink Kookaburra, presented the Indian team with the most challenging circumstances and Gill, with scores of 31 and 28, looked way more comfortable than both



Rohit and Virat Kohli.

The second option could be more convenient and it involves dropping one among Mohammed Siraj and Akash Deep to include Gill as three specialist pacers could be a luxury at the SCG with Jadeja and Washington expected to bowl more overs than in Melbourne. Siraj redeemed himself with a fine spell in Melbourne while Akash Deep was distinctly unlucky to get just one wicket across two innings.

The third option is the most inconvenient one but perhaps the need of the hour too if Rohit wants to lead by example. With just 31 runs in five innings and 155 runs in the last 14 knocks, the skipper could himself volunteer to step aside and let Gill play, with

KL Rahul regaining his opening slot, where he has looked the most assured.

Taking a back seat to allow the team to move forward is a call that can only be taken if the heart is in the right place.

McDonald optimistic Starc will play in Sydney Test

Australia head coach Andrew McDonald conceded that Mitchell Marsh has fallen short of expectations with the bat against India but remained optimistic about Mitchell Starc's availability for the pivotal fifth Test.

Starc's fitness remains the primary worry for the hosts after the pacer battled through sore ribs in the fourth Test but still managed to bowl effectively, including claiming the prized wicket of Kohli on the final day.

"Any time you get through the game, it's always a good indicator that you've a chance at the next game," McDonald said. "It didn't stop him (Starc). Clearly there was a little bit of discomfort early on in spells, but once he got warm it seemed as though he was pretty free. We'll see how everyone recovers. Bowling last, it was a pretty attritional game, something that we're not used to in the last few years."

Should Starc be unavailable for the decider, McDonald expressed confidence in Jhye Richardson or Sean Abbott stepping in to fill the void.

Starc's fitness issues, compounded by his heavy workload alongside skipper Pat Cummins, have also drawn attention to the limited role of Marsh as a fifth bowler.

Across four Tests, Marsh has bowled only 33 overs. His contributions with the bat have been similarly underwhelming, with just 73 runs at an average of 10.42. — PTI

Bumrah named captain of CA's Test team of year

SYDNEY, DECEMBER 31

Jasprit Bumrah was on Tuesday recognised for his splendid performances in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy as Cricket Australia named the Indian pace spearhead as the captain of its Test team of the year, which also features Yashasvi Jaiswal.

Bumrah has been the best bowler in Test cricket in 2024 with 71 wickets from 13 matches at an average of 14.92 and a strike rate of 30.16.

"One of the greatest calendar years by a bowler ever; not since Dale Steyn's 74-wicket 2008 has a pace bowler been as prolific and not since Imran Khan's 1982 (62 victims at 13.29) has one taken them at a betterrate," CA, the game's governing body in the country, said of Bumrah.

"Yes he has torched Aug-

"Yes, he has torched Australia amid of the greatest tours by a visiting quick of all-time, but he also cleaned up England with 19 poles in four Tests on unhelpful home surfaces as every other seamer went around the park. As the only member of this side to have skippered their team in 2024 (leading India to victory in Perth) Bumrah also gets the captaincy reins - a job he could well see more of in future," CA added.

The peerless fast bowler has been the best bowler in the ongoing Border-Gavaskar Trophy with 30 wickets in just four Tests.

Jaiswal has been picked as the opener for his exploits with the bat in the year. Jaiswal finished the year as the second-highest scorer with 1,478 runs from 15 matches (29 innings) at an average of 54.74 with nine fifties and three centuries.

For Jaiswal, CA wrote,



Jasprit Bumrah and Yashasvi Jaiswal are the only Indians named in Cricket Australia's Test team of the year. FILE



star was only 22 for all but four days of 2024 but played with the composure and class of a veteran. Jaiswal's back-to-back double centuries in February ensured a home Test series win for India over England, while the left-hander's stunning 161 in Perth was also decisive. His runs tally is the most by an Indian opener in a calendar year and his 36 sixes is a new worldwide benchmark for a calendar year."—PTI

Haryana's Sagar soars to new heights in javelin

DEEPANKAR SHARDA TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 31
Returning to the field after a five-month gap due to an injury, javelin thrower Sagar stunned everyone at the All India Inter University Athletics Meet in Bhubaneswar with a gold medal winning effort of 80.82 metres.

The Haryana athlete, representing Patiala's Punjabi University, missed breaking Olympics gold medallist Neeraj Chopra's meet record by just 0.22m. In 2015, Chopra had set the meet record with a throw of 81.04m. The 23-year-old Sagar, who is participating in his third inter university meet, had last participated in the Khelo India Games in February.

"Breaking the record was never my aim. I was aiming for the gold medal but the javelin just felt perfect coming out of my hand. Before it landed, I knew it was going to be my personal best," said Sagar, who last marked a throw of 71m in the Khelo India Games.

"It was after receiving the gold medal I came to know about missing the record by a whisker. Nevertheless, I will try to improve in my coming championships," he added.

Sagar, who hails from Mehmra village in Fate-habad, has been training under coach Dharminder Chahal. "He has come up with a good performance after his injury, which is promising as he has a busy calendar. He will be featuring in the National Games, World University Games and National Athletics Championships next year," said Chahal.

With comparisons being made with Chopra, Sagar is looking ahead to the next phase of his journey. "There is no comparison with Neeraj bhai, but I am surely eyeing a better 2025, not only in terms of winning medals, but setting new standards in the world of javelin throw," said Sagar.

When asked about difficulties he faced during his recovery period, he said, "Javelin is an injury prone sport and I am focussing on avoiding any further issue with my body. I have already started taking good care of myself. In addition, I have shifted my focus on technical training as the National Games are scheduled for next month."

Mumbai's Mhatre youngest to score 150 in List A cricket

AHMEDABAD, DECEMBER 31 Avush Mhatre on Tuesdayse

Ayush Mhatre on Tuesday set a new world record for the youngest player to get a 150plus score in List A cricket during Mumbai's Vijay Hazare Trophy match against Nagaland, bettering compa-

triot Yashasvi Jaiswal's effort.
At 17 years and 168 days,
Mhatre broke the previous
record of Jaiswal, who was 17
years and 291 days when he
achieved the feat while playing for Mumbai against
against Jharkhand in 2019,
according to MCA.

Mhatre, who made his debut for domestic giants Mumbai earlier this season, clobbered 11 sixes and 15 fours to make 181 off only 117 balls while powering his side to 403/7 in 50 overs. — PTI



Ayush Mhatre made 181 off only 117 balls for Mumbai.

Ananya bags maiden senior air rifle gold



Meghana Sajjanar, Ananya Naidu and Narmada Nithin. NRAI

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 31

Maharashtra's Ananya Naidu won hermaiden senior women's 10m air rifle gold medal after staving off a late charge from Meghana Sajjanar. Naidu stood top of the podium after totalling 252.5 in the finals of the ongoing 67th National Shooting Championship Competitions in Bhopal on Tuesday.

Naidu's final tally was a mere 0.2 more than the more experienced Sajjanar, who was representing the Railways. The bronze medal was won by Tamil Nadu's Narmada Nithin, who finished with a score of 231.3 points.

In the final, Naidu led the

field with 1.4 points after the first five shots but while she led the 24-shot final, it became a close fight between her and Sajjanar during the final stages. Both Naidu and Sajjanar tallied 20.6 points in the last two shots.

In the junior women's competition, Gautami Bhanot won the gold medal with a score of 251.5 points followed by Mayuri Pawar. They were both tied at 168.0 points at one stage in the final but Gautami edged with a score of 21.6 in the next two shots to Mayuri's 20.5 to regain the lead. The bronze was won by Disha Dhankar after she tallied 229.9 points. — TNS

Vaishali enters quarters of blitz, others fade away

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS RAPID AND BLITZ

NEWYORK, DECEMBER 31

Indian Grandmaster R
Vaishali surprised herself
with a stellar performance
to enter the quarterfinals
of the World Blitz Championship here, even as
recently-crowned rapid
champion Koneru Humpy
made an early exit.

Following Humpy's stellar performance in rapid, which earned her the gold medal and a prize of \$60,000, it was Vaishali's turn to impress her fans. She scored 9.5 points out of a possible 11 to top the qualifying round.

"I'm very happy with today's performance. Tomorrow will be a big day. Honestly, it (performance) was completely unexpected. I was not expecting the result like how it went today. Tomorrow, I have to be ready and prepare well and then see," she said.

Russian Kateryna Lagno

came closest to Vaishali, scoring 8.5 points, while the



R Vaishali scored 9.5 points to top the qualifying round. FILE

remaining six qualifiers finished with an identical eight points. Despite meeting the points criteria, Humpy was eliminated due to the worst tiebreaker, finishing ninth.

In the quarterfinal, Vaishali will face Chinese Grandmaster Zhu Jiner.

In the open section, 10 players were tied for first place, including world No. 1 Magnus Carlsen. Russian Ian Nepomniachtchi won the qualifier with 9.5 points, benefiting from the best tiebreak, while Fabi-

ano Caruana of the United States finished second, ahead of Carlsen, who was placed third.

Surprisingly, none of the Indians made the top-eight. Arjun Erigaisi played brilliantly at the start, securing victories in the first five rounds, but faded away to finish with a sub-par seven points. R Praggnanandhaa was the best-placed Indian, with 8.5 points, but a last-round loss to Russian Daniil Dubov cost him a spot in the quarterfinals.—PTI

Manchester United lose again as Ipswich upset Chelsea

LONDON, DECEMBER 31

Alexander Isak scored for the sixth straight Premier League game as Newcastle beat Manchester United 2-0 at Old Trafford to condemn Ruben Amorim's side to their worst home run in the top tier since the 1970s. Relegation-threatened Ipswich beat Chelsea 2-0 to win at home for the first time this season, and Aston Villa and Brighton drew 2-2. Newcastle's commanding display marked the first time since February 1979 that Man United have lost three home league games in a row. It is also the first time since 1962

that United have lost five league matches in the same calendar month.

Isak started the misery for home fans with his eighth goal in six matches. The Sweden striker put Newcastle ahead with a header after four minutes and Joelinton doubled their lead 15 minutes later when he rose above Lisandro Martinez to head in a second.

The defeat was the fifth in eight league games since Amorim joined from Sporting Lisbon in November.

Chelsea started the day with

the best away record in the

but they were trailing at Portman Road after just 12 minutes thanks to a mistake from goalkeeper Filip Jorgensen. The Scandinavian fouled

league after leaders Liverpool

Liam Delap in the box and Delap got up to convert the penalty—with—aplomb. Chelsea pushed forward in search of an equaliser but it was Ipswich that doubled their lead early in the second half. A poor pass from Axel Disasi allowed Delap to stretch the Chelsea defence and his pass set up Omari Hutchinson to score against his former club.—AP



Newcastle United's Alexander Isak scores their first goal against Manchester United. REUTERS

Sagar with coach Dharminder Chahal after winning the javelin gold medal in the All India Inter University Athletics Meet.

Quad reaffirms commitment to stable, peaceful Indo-Pacific

Four nations issue joint statement to mark 20 yrs of regional cooperation

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 31

Twenty years after India, the US, Australia and Japan first collaborated as an emergency response to the Indian Ocean tsunami, the four nations now known as the Quadrilateral or Quad — on Tuesday reaffirmed their commitment to addressing the region's future needs.

The foreign ministers of the member nations of the grouping made the pledge in a joint statement commemorating the 20th anniversary of "Quad cooperation".

The four countries came together 20 years ago to extend assistance in response to the 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami on December 26 that year, and that coalition subsequently took form of the Quad.

The partnership, which began as a crisis-response mechanism. has evolved into a comprehensive collaboration delivering tangible benefits for the region.

In the last few years, the Quad has rolled out a number of initiatives addressing some of the most pressing needs and challenges of the Indo-Pacific region, including in areas of maritime security, infrastruc-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with leaders of other three Quad members - the US, Australia and Japan. FILE

QUAD STANDS AS A VITAL FORCE FOR STABILITY

The idea of the Quad began with a shared response to the Indian Ocean tsunami. Today, the Quad stands as a vital force for stability, progress and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific, S Jaishankar, external Affairs Minister

ture and connectivity. India is scheduled to host the next Quad Summit that is likely to take place in the second half of 2025.

The statement read: "The Quad is committed to working together in responding to the future needs of the region."

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar posted on X, stating, "The idea of the Quad

began with a shared response to the Indian Ocean tsunami. Today, the Quad stands as a vital force for stability, progress and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific."

The Quad nations now collaborate with partners across the Indo-Pacific to tackle a wide array of challenges, including climate change, public health crisis, infra-

structure development, maritime security, STEM educacounter-terrorism, emerging technologies and cybersecurity.

Since 2021, the leaders of the four countries have convened annually to advance the Quad's agenda and bolster its contributions to South Asia, Southeast Asia and the Pacific.

The statement said, "As four partners, we share a vision of a free and open Indo-Pacific that is peaceful, stable and prosperous, underpinned by effective regional institutions."

In diplomatic terms, the phrase "free and open Indo-Pacific" is widely understood as an indirect challenge to China's dominance in the South China Sea.

The statement also reaffirmed the Quad's "unwavering support" for ASEAN centrality and unity, along with the implementation of the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific. Additionally, it reiterated the Quad's respect for Pacific-led regional framework, particularly the Pacific Islands Forum.

As part of their ongoing efforts, the Quad nations are now addressing cybersecurity threats, enhancing cyber resilience and intensifying efforts to combat climate change.

Army, Navy, IAF Chiefs to get ADCs from each other's services

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 31 In a significant administra-

tive reform aimed at enhancing jointness within the armed forces, the personal staff officers, known as Aides-de-Camp (ADCs), to the Chiefs of the Army, Navy and the Air Force will now be appointed from services other than their own. This change, effective from January 1, has been voluntary accepted by the three service chiefs, symbolising a commitment to inter-service integration.

Previously, chiefs selected their ADCs from within their own

Initiative aimed at cultivatingjointness in the armed forces

branches, often choosing officers from units with which they had a special connection. The new arrangement, part of a comprehensive 200-point reform agenda outlined by Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan, represents a modest yet meaningful step towards fostering jointness among the services.

The role of an ADC is pivotal, encompassing the management of the chief's

daily affairs, attendance at official events and meetings, scheduling, correspondence and various administrative Assigning ADCs from different services is expected to promote a deeper understanding and cooperation across the branches, reinforcing the integrated approach essential for mod-

ern military operations. A special Joint Division has been established at the Defence Services Staff College to encourage collaborative and inter-service approaches to warfare, emphasising the importance of integration and mutual understanding.

India-Nepal joint military exercise begins

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 31 The 18th edition of the India-Nepal joint military exercise, 'Surya Kiran', commenced at Saljhandi, Nepal, on Tuesday. The twoweek-long exercise involves an infantry battalion each from the Indian Army and the Nepali army, aiming to enhance interoperability and exchange expertise in unconventional warfare. including counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism operations, as well as humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.

A traditional opening ceremony marked the start of the exercise, with both contingents marching in unison to Indian and Nepali military tunes.

Addressing the gather-Maj Gen Prem Bahadur Gurung, Commander of the Mid-West Division of the Nepali Army, urged the participants to learn from each other's extensive experiences, foster interoperability and strengthen the ties between the two nations.

The Indian Army contingent arrived at Saljhandi on December 29, where they were welcomed with a traditional military reception. Around 700 defence personnel from both armies are participating in the event.

UP startup dedicates 2 butter varieties to US ex-Prez Carter

LUCKNOW, DECEMBER 31

Thousands of miles away from his home in Georgia where he breathed his last, former US president Jimmy Carter will live on — in the form of two new varieties of peanut butter dedicated to the "champion of peanut farming" from Unnao-based startup Nutty Village.

Carter, who was elected in the wake of the Watergate

scandal and the Vietnam War, died at his home in Plains, Georgia, on Sunday at the age of 100.

Nutty Village has decided to honour Carter for his "commitment to agriculture". Aman Kumar, who started the company in 2020, said.

"As a tribute to the former president of the US, considered a champion of peanut farming and rural development, we will be dedicating our upcoming range of coffeeflavoured peanut butter and barbeque-flavoured peanut butter in his honour," the 29year-old entrepreneur said.

The two new flavours -coffee and barbeque — are being added to the existing dark chocolate, jaggery and unsweetened varieties. Carter was the third American president to visit India. — PTI

Bhagat Singh Gallery in Pakistan Punjab opened for tourists

LAHORE, DECEMBER 31 The government in Pak-

istan's Punjab has opened the Bhagat Singh Gallery at the historical Poonch House here, where the freedom fighter's trial was conducted around 93 years ago.

The gallery houses historical documents, including pictures, letters, newspapers, details of the trial and other memorial articles related to his life and contributions to the freedom struggle.

Punjab Chief Secretary Zahid Akhtar Zaman inaugurated the gallery on Monday. "Tourists will have access to the gallery under an agreement between the departments of industry, commerce and tourism of the Punjab government," Zaman said. He further said that the historical building of Poonch House had been restored to its original form.

Singh, 23, was hanged by British rulers on March 23, 1931, in Lahore, after being tried under charges for hatching a conspiracy against the colonial government. Pakistan's Punjab Archives Department displayed records of the legendary freedom fighter's case file, including his execution certificate, letters, photographs and newspaper clippings and other material, for the first time in 2018.

The record, which was put on display, included Singh's request for providing the court order dated August 27, 1930, and his petition dated May 31, 1929, for the interview of his father.

of his father, Sardar Kishan Singh, against the death sentence of his son and the certificate of the execution of his death in Lahore district jail by the superintendent of jail, dated March 23, 1931.

The records further include Bhagat Singh's petition for allowing him daily newspapers and books, and some other records related to the manifesto of the Naujawan Bharat Sabha Lahore by BC Vohra and several clippings of the daily VIRBHARAT. - PTI

Freedom fighter's trial was held at Poonch House 93 years ago

It also contained a petition

ASYMBOL OF PROMISE. PERFORMANCE. PERFECTION

I-T Dept extends deadlineforfiling revised returns

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 31

The Income Tax Department on Tuesday extended the last date for filing belated or revised return for the 2023-24 fiscal to January 15. The last date for filing revised return for Assessment Year (AY) 2024-25 (2023-24 fiscal) was earlier December 31.

"The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) extends the last furnishing for belated/revised return of income for AY 2024-25 in the case of resident individuals from December 31, 2024, to January 15, 2025," the I-T Department said on X — PTI

Four workers killed in fire at Surat steel plant

SURAT, DECEMBER 31

Four workers were killed and another one was injured in a fire at a steel plant in Hazira industrial area in Gujarat's Surat on Tuesday evening officials said. The incident occurred at ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel India's, Surat Commissioner of Police Anupam

Singh Gehlot said. "We have learnt that the fire spread in one section of the plant after burning coal suddenly spilled over. The resultant blaze killed four labourers, who were on a lift at that time in the plant," he said. —PTI

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